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NEARBY

Probe ordered into ₹431-cr. borewell 'scam'

BENGALURU

Following charges levelled by the Congress of corruption and discrepancies in borewell drilling and installation of pump sets by the Backward Classes Department, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Wednesday said a probe would be conducted into the alleged ₹431-crore scam.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

CAG: ₹2,829 cr. benefit transferred outside portal

BENGALURU

Karnataka's implementation and management of the direct benefit transfer (DBT) system have been poor and 22 departments transferred benefits of ₹2,829.02 crore under 168 schemes outside the core DBT portal, said the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India in its report.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

Govt. moves Division Bench on CET ranking

BENGALURU

The State government filed an appeal before a Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka challenging the single judge's order of quashing CET-2022 ranking for UG engineering courses.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

Congress meltdown in Goa as 8 of party's 11 MLAs defect to BJP

With the second such mass exit in three years, Opposition now has only 7 MLAs

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Eight of the 11 Congress MLAs in the Goa Assembly defected to the Bharatiya Janata Party, led by Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, on Wednesday.

The ruling party has succeeded in splitting the Congress twice in three years in the State, this time despite the loyalty pledges that all 37 Congress candidates took ahead of the February Assembly election in the presence of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi at a temple, a dargah and a church vowing not to defect to other parties regardless of the poll result.

In a sudden turn of events, the coastal State witnessed another bout of political musical chairs as the eight Congress legislators – two-thirds of the party's strength in the Assembly – moved to the BJP in a replay of the defections in 2019, when 10 MLAs jumped ship.

The turncoats include top leaders such as former Chief Minister Digambar Kamat, former Leader of the Opposition Michael Lobo and his wife, Delilah Lobo, as well as long-time Congress loyalists like Aleixo Sequeira, Sankalp Amonkar and Rodolfo Fernandes along with Rajesh Faldessai and Kedar Naik.

Shifting base: Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant meeting the eight Congress MLAs who joined the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in Panaji on Wednesday. • PTI

The BJP, which had 20 MLAs in the 40-seat Assembly, has now increased its strength to 28, while the ruling coalition now has the support 33 MLAs, including two of the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP) and three Independents.

The Opposition is reduced to just seven MLAs – three of the Congress (Carlos Ferreira, Altone d'Costa and Yuri Alemao), one from the Goa Forward Party, two from the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and one from the Revolutionary Goans Party (RGP).

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Nervous BJP fast-tracked 'Operation Kichad': Cong.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The crossing over of eight of its Goa lawmakers to the BJP was part of the ruling party's "Operation Kichad (mud)", which was fast-tracked to divert attention from the success of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, the Congress said on Wednesday.

The Congress is now left with just three MLAs in the Assembly.

"Operation Kichad of BJP in Goa has been fast-tracked because of the visible success of the Bharat Jodo Yatra. BJP is nervous. A daily dose of disinformation is handed out to undermine the yatra. We remain undeterred. We will overcome these dirty tricks of the BJP," Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said in a tweet.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Hindi not a competitor of regional languages: Shah

They depend on each other for their growth, says Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Wednesday that only 6% of the children received education in English and a large majority who did not speak fluent English were deprived of a platform at the national and State levels.

Mr. Shah appealed to guardians to speak to children in their mother tongue to enable them to learn Hindi without much effort.

He said it was time that inferiority complex around Indian languages, instilled by the British, was overthrown from people's conscience with the help of regional languages and Hindi.

Mr. Shah said Hindi was not a competitor but a "friend" of all the other regional languages in the country and they were mutually dependent on each other for their growth.

False campaign

He said there was a concerted "disinformation" campaign to pit Hindi against other languages such as Marathi and Tamil, and underlined the need to strengthen local languages with Hindi.

Addressing the All-India Official Language Conference in Surat on Hindi Divas, Mr. Shah said that accepting the coexistence of languages was necessary, and stressed the need to make Hindi flexible by taking words from other languages to expand its dictionary. Mr. Shah observed that unless the Hindi language became flexible, it could not grow. "I want to make one thing very clear. Some people are spreading disinformation that Hindi and Gujarati, Hindi and Tamil, Hindi and Marathi are competitors. Hindi cannot be a competitor to any other language in the country. You must understand that Hindi is the friend of all the languages of the country," Mr. Shah said.

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PROTEST IN BENGALURU: ▸ PAGE 4

> I want to say with sincerity that it should be our aim to keep all the languages and mother tongues alive and prosperous. Only with the prosperity of all these languages will Hindi prosper
>
> AMIT SHAH
> Union Home Minister

Centre to push Hindi use in offices, banks abroad

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has written to the External Affairs Ministry to promote the use of Hindi for official work in banks, public sector undertakings, embassies and other government offices located in foreign countries.

On August 30, the MHA asked the MEA to provide a list of all government institutions abroad and set up an Official Language Implementation Committee that would oversee the progress of Hindi in official work. ▸ PAGE 10

Royal birth

Camp gets bigger: Lakshmi, one of the elephants chosen to take part in the Dasara celebrations, gave birth to a calf on the palace premises in Mysuru on Wednesday. • M. A. SRIRAM (REPORT ON PAGE 5)

Cadets back at J&K lake after 33 years

Training drills in the area were suspended in 1989 under the shadow of militancy

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Central Kashmir's Manasbal Lake is once again open for training drills, more than three decades after raging militancy forced the Navy to abandon it.

Amid picturesque hills and pristine waters, over 100 National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets, both from J&K and outside, participated in exercises like sailing and boat pulling on Wednesday.

"It's a historic day after a gap of 33 years. NCC training activities of the naval wing are being revived at the lake. Training in the area was suspended during the inception of militancy in the 1990s," said Group Commander, NCC, Brigadier K.S. Kalsi.

The participants expressed excitement at the resumption of training at the scenic lake. "The administration and armed forces have managed to improve the situation to the extent that the Navy was able to revive the training area," added Brigadier Kalsi.

Calm waters: NCC cadets participate in training in the Manasbal Lake in central Kashmir on Wednesday. • AP

Participants upbeat

The exercises, which also saw the participation of girl cadets, may help students from various parts of J&K interact with each other. "It's an experience to undergo training here," Joginder Singh, a cadet from Jammu's Doda, said.

Located in Ganderbal district, Manasbal is a freshwater lake. The site was abandoned by the Navy in 1989.

"The NCC has been working in J&K since 1965 and would train cadets on the shores of the Dal and Manasbal lakes. The security situation had forced us to shift the training module outside the Valley. However, such exercises here will motivate locals to join the NCC in the future," Brigadier Kalsi said.

Meanwhile, J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha visited the forward areas of Poonch on Wednesday and was briefed on the overall security situation prevalent on the Line of Control, counter-infiltration grid and operational preparedness.

"I salute the exemplary bravery of our armed forces. J&K is witnessing a new dawn of peace, progress and prosperity. India will give a befitting reply to anyone who tries to disturb the peace, unity and integrity of the country," Mr. Sinha said.

The Lt. Governor added that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had given special focus to the development and prosperity of people living along the border, especially the youth. "The young generation should come forward and avail the benefits of various schemes launched under 'Youth Mission' to become self-reliant and successful entrepreneurs," he said.

BCCI office-bearers can have 2 terms in a row before cool-off

With SC order, Ganguly, Jay Shah eligible to contest again

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday held that the three-year cooling-off period for BCCI office-bearers will kick in only after they complete two consecutive terms in the apex cricket body.

The relaxation in the cooling-off period has paved the way for BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah to contest elections for a second term in October.

Similarly, office-bearers of State cricket associations need to cool off only after serving two successive terms. However, a State association office-bearer need not undergo the three-year hibernation if he or she wants to contest a Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) election. The cooling-off period will not apply to someone who wants to go up a notch and fight the BCCI election immediately after his or her second term in a State association.

That is, the cooling-off period kicks in only at the particular levels. In short, a person who has completed two consecutive terms in the BCCI should cool off before trying for a third in the Board. A person who has finished two back-to-back tenures at a State association should take a three-year breather before contesting for a third time there.

Earlier, an office-bearer who had completed a term in a State association and another in the BCCI had to comply with the cooling-off period requirement.

A Bench of Justices D.Y. Chandrachud and Hima Kohli said the modification did not take away the "rationale" behind the court having imposed the cooling-off period, that is, to prevent an office-bearer from growing vested interests.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Two ICU patients die during power cut

VIMS authorities claim deaths were not related to outage

STAFF REPORTER
KALABURAGI

Two patients who were in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Vijayanagara Institute of Medical Sciences (VIMS), Ballari, died during a power outage on Wednesday.

Maula Hussein, who was suffering from kidney issues, and Chettemma, who was a snake-bite victim, died. One died at 9.30 a.m. and the other at 9.35 a.m.

And, the deaths were widely attributed to power cut and a defunct power generator on VIMS premises. However, the hospital authorities dismissed the allegations stating that the deaths were unrelated to power cut.

"The hospital said that both the patients were in critical condition with severe ailments and died despite the best efforts of the doctors. The power cut could be a coincidence," Deputy Commissioner Pavan Kumar Malapati told *The Hindu*.

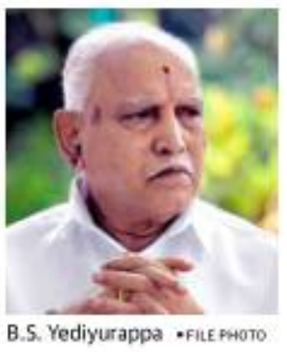
As per the relatives of the deceased, there was no electricity supply to VIMS between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. However, VIMS authorities said that alternative arrangement was made for power supply.

Special court orders probe by Lokayukta against BSY

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Special Court for Elected Representatives ordered a Lokayukta police probe against former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa on a private complaint filed by T.J. Abraham, activist, on Wednesday. This is the first high profile probe referred to the Lokayukta police after the Anti-Corruption Bureau was wound up and powers to probe cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, restored to the Lokayukta police.

Hearing the private complaint earlier, the special court observed that "there are some material to refer the complaint for investigation" against Mr. Yediyurappa and others on the allegation of receiving ₹12.5 crore as bribe from a construction firm in connection with a housing project tendered by Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), on the grounds that there was no sanction for prosecution.



B.S. Yediyurappa • FILE PHOTO

However, the HC on September 7 held that there was no need for sanction for prosecution for the special court to order a probe. Following this, the private complaint came up for hearing again in the special court on Wednesday, when the court directed the Lokayukta police to carry out the probe into the case.

The complaint names Minister S.T. Somashekar, the then BDA Commissioner and IAS officer G.C. Prakash, Chandrakanth Ramalingam of Ramalingam Construction Company Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Yediyurappa's son-in-law Virupakashappa Yamakanamaradi, his son Shashidhar Maradi and his (Mr. Virupakashappa's) son-in-law Sanjay Sree, apart from Mr. Yediyurappa.

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

WPI inflation eases

12.41 In percentage, the Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation in August, easing to an 11-month low, on softening of prices of manufactured and fuel products, even as food items remained expensive. Although WPI-based inflation declined for three consecutive months in August, it remained in double-digits for 17 months beginning April last year. The inflation was 13.93% in July and 11.64% in August last year. Wheat prices continue to rise after intense heat waves. PTI

Energy crisis in EU

140 In $ billion, the amount the European Union seeks to raise to cope with an energy crisis that has increased the prospect of winter fuel rationing, corporate insolvencies and economic recession. European gas prices have rocketed this year as Russia has reduced fuel exports to retaliate for Western sanctions over its invasion of Ukraine, leaving households struggling to pay energy bills and utilities. European governments have responded with measures such as capping prices on electricity and gas bills. REUTERS

Russia's foul play

300 In $ million, the amount covertly spent by Russia since 2014 to try to influence politicians and other officials in more than two dozen countries, according to the U.S. State Department in a newly released cable. The cable cites a new intelligence assessment of Russia's global covert efforts to support policies and parties sympathetic to Moscow. Russia is believed to have spent in Ukraine as well, where President Zelenskyy and his top deputies have long accused Mr. Putin of meddling in domestic politics. PTI

Memory loss

80 The percentage of older people who were infected with COVID-19 and showed a higher risk of developing Alzheimer's disease within a year, according to a study conducted on patients in the U.S. The research, published in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, found that the highest risk of the disorder was among women who were 85. The researchers said that it is unclear whether COVID-19 triggers a new development of the disease or accelerates its emergence. The health records of 6.2 million adults 65 and older were analysed. PTI

Penalty on Google

3.99 In $ billion, the antitrust fine imposed on Google Android by the European Court of Justice's General Court for throttling competition and reducing consumer choice through the dominance of its mobile Android operating system. The court largely rejected Google's appeal against a 2018 decision by the EU's executive Commission to slap Google with a fine. The fine is one of three antitrust penalties totalling more than $8 billion that the European Commission slapped on Google between 2017 and 2019. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

Understanding Ukraine's counter-offensive

What are the territorial gains made by the Ukrainian forces? How has Kremlin reacted?

THE GIST

- Ukrainian forces have pushed back Russian soldiers from most of Kharkiv Oblast, retaking thousands of square kilometres of territory. Russia has confirmed the retreat, saying it withdrew troops for "regrouping".
- Ukraine says it has retaken some 3,500 square miles of territories, including Izium and Kupiansk, two strategically important towns in the northeast that served as logistical hubs for the Russian forces. This is the first time, since the war began, that Ukrainian troops have pushed back the Russians through combat.
- American and British intelligence officials were directly involved in planning the Ukrainian counter-offensive, according to a report in the *NYT*.

STANLY JOHNY

The story so far: Ukraine has launched a lightning counter-offensive in the country's northeast that saw surprising territorial gains. Its forces have pushed back Russian soldiers from most of Kharkiv Oblast, retaking thousands of square kilometres of territory. Russia has confirmed the retreat, saying it withdrew troops for "regrouping". Ukraine's fresh momentum has triggered debates on whether the country, which has lost swathes of territories in the north, east and south since the Russian invasion began on February 24, is finally turning around the war. It has also raised questions on Russia's battlefield tactics.

How significant are Ukraine's gains?

Ukraine says it has retaken some 3,500 square miles of territories since its counter-offensive began earlier this year, including Izium and Kupiansk, two strategically important towns in the northeast that served as logistical hubs for the Russian forces. This is a significant battlefield gain for Ukraine because this is the first time, since the war began, that Ukrainian troops have pushed back the Russians through combat. In March, Russia had voluntarily announced withdrawal from the Kyiv area and around Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest city, after the Istanbul talks between the two sides. But this week's withdrawal was different. It looked like the Russians were caught off guard when Ukraine launched the blitz. This provides a much needed morale booster for the Ukrainian troops that suffered a series of defeats in recent months – in Mariupol, Severodonetsk and Lysychansk. Ukraine has now said the fighting would continue till the "liberation" of all lost territories (including Donbas and Crimea), practically ruling out any negotiated settlement. The Russians have also ruled out talks.

How did Ukraine manage to beat the Russians back in Kharkiv Oblast?

Ukraine has been planning for this counter-offensive for months. After capturing Lysychansk in July, which saw the whole of Luhansk province coming under its control, Russia's battlefield combat came to a halt. By that time, Russia was controlling almost 25% of Ukraine, Europe's largest country. Russia, which also took huge losses in the battle for Donbas, seemed to have decided to halt the ground offensive as its troops were regrouping and recovering. This opened a window opportunity for Ukraine to move ahead with its counter-offensive plans. This was also the time when Ukraine started receiving advanced mid-range rocket systems such as High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) from the U.S. The Biden administration, which has committed military assistance worth more than $14.5 billion to Ukraine, and British and other European governments made sure that Ukraine is replenished despite the military setbacks it suffered. On the other side, the sanctions-hit Russia found it difficult to make sure their supply is intact and had to turn to Iran and North Korea, according to western intelligence, for drones and shells.

American and British intelligence officials were directly involved in planning the Ukrainian counter-offensive, according to a report in the *NYT*. U.S. intelligence agencies also provided information to Ukraine on the weak links of the Russian defence. Ukraine started attacks in southern Ukraine –including a ground offensive in Kherson, one of Russia's early gains in the war, and sabotage hits in Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014. But as it appears now, Ukraine's main target was not the southern region, but Kharkiv. As Russia, faced with the Ukrainian attacks in the south, bolstered the defences of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine broke into the relatively weaker defence lines in the northeast, pushing the Russians back. Russia had two options – resist the Ukrainian attack with the limited number of soldiers deployed in Kharkiv or retreat and regroup elsewhere. The Russian Generals seem to have opted for the latter.

What is Russia's response?

Russia has stepped up air and missile attacks in Kharkiv and elsewhere in Ukraine. That's understandable as Russia still possesses the capability to strike anywhere in Ukraine. But the question is whether such attacks would have any meaningful effect on the battlefield. Several defence analysts, including those at the U.S.-based Institute for the Study of War and the London-based Royal United Services Institute, have pointed out that Russia faces several challenges on the battlefield such as manpower crunch and supply disruptions. This explains why the Russian battlefield advances came to a halt after the capture of Luhansk. Russian President Vladimir Putin still hasn't declared war on Ukraine. His original plan was to meet his military objective with a limited deployment of Russian troops (what he calls "the special military operation"). But the Ukrainian resistance and the current counter-offensive have made it difficult for Mr. Putin to maintain the momentum with the limited deployment.

So unless he changes the current plan of the war and deploys more soldiers, the Russian focus is likely to be on holding the line in the south and east – Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Luhansk and Donetsk – until the winter (say, November). Once the winter sets in and the conflict gets frozen, Mr. Putin will have more time to prepare his forces for future battles. He can also use the energy card, which he is more than willing to do, to wreak havoc in European economies, which are already battered by high inflation, during winter. On the other side, Ukraine knows that it has a small window of opportunity to make maximum territorial gains before winter sets in, and that's what Ukraine is trying to achieve. So the coming weeks would be crucial for both sides. While it's too early to say whether Ukraine has turned around the war, it has clearly pushed Russia to the defensive.

How is it going to affect Mr. Putin?

Russia's retreat from Kharkiv has triggered rare public criticism inside the country of the way the war is conducted. Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu is particularly targeted. Even Ramzan Kadyrov, the strongman of Chechnya and a Putin ally, has said the Defence Ministry has made mistakes. Russian forces' inability to take a quick, decisive victory in Ukraine had already raised questions about Mr. Putin's decision to invade the country. But the dominant Russian narrative was that its troops were making incremental advances in Ukraine (which they were) and Russian officials and Generals have made it clear several times that they want to take the whole of Ukraine's east and south, stretching from Kharkiv to Odesa. But Ukraine has drilled holes in this narrative with its gains in Kharkiv. That leaves Mr. Putin in a spot.

As Walter Russel Mead wrote, "the Kremlin is no place for the weak". Historically, bad wars have cost Russian rulers dearly. Tsar Nicholas II never recovered from Russia's humiliating defeat to the Japanese in 1904-05. The Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan in 1989 turned out to be politically costly for Mikhail Gorbachev. Russia's situation in Ukraine is far from an outright defeat or forced withdrawal. But the prolonged battle has already affected Russia's power projections and if Ukraine continues its small but significant battlefield advances, Mr. Putin would face more questions from his own allies. He can't afford to lose this war.

Fighting back: A Ukrainian soldier helps a wounded fellow fighter on the road in the recaptured territory of the Kharkiv region. • AP

EXPLAINER

The lowdown on the essential medicines list

What are the new drugs on the National List of Essential Medicines, 2022? Why have some medicines been dropped?

THE GIST

- On September 13, the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2022, was released, with 384 drugs in it across 27 categories. While 34 new drugs are on the list, 26 drugs from the earlier NLEM were dropped.
- For inclusion in NLEM, the drugs have to be useful in treating diseases which are a public health problem in India. They have to be licensed by the DCGI, have proven efficacy, a safety profile based on scientific evidence and cost effective.
- The primary purpose of the NLEM is to promote rational use of medicines considering three important aspects which are cost, safety and efficacy.

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN

The story so far: On September 13, the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2022, was released, with 384 drugs in it across 27 categories. While 34 new drugs are on the list, 26 drugs from NLEM, 2015, including common gastrointestinal medicines Ranitidine and Sucralfate, have been dropped. In a tweet, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said, "several antibiotics, vaccines, anti-cancer drugs and many other important drugs would become more affordable, and the 'out-of-pocket' expenditure on health care would come down." Prices of essential medicines are regulated by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority.

What is in and what is out?

Four major anti-cancer drugs, hydrochloride, HCl trihydrate, lenalidomide and leuprolide acetate as well as psychotherapeutic drugs, nicotine replacement therapy and anti-parasitic drugs like ivermectin, mupirocin (topical antibiotic), and meropenem (antibiotic) are on the list. It also includes four drugs that are still under patent – bedaquiline and delamanid, used in the treatment of multiple drug-resistant tuberculosis, dolutegravir used to treat human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, and daclatasavir used in treating viral infections such as Hepatitis C. Endocrine medicines and contraceptives like fludrocortisone, ormeloxifene, insulin glargine and teneligliptin (for diabetes control) have also been added to the list. Montelukast, acting on the respiratory tract, the ophthalmological drug latanoprost and cardiovascular medicines dabigatran and tenecteplase are on the list too.

Omissions include commonly used gastrointestinal drugs ranitidine, sucralfate, white petrolatum (for treating skin conditions), atenolol and methyldopa (for high blood pressure). Vivek Sehgal, director general, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, said for the industry to be able to continue to make and supply the medicines from NLEM, the government should ensure that inflation is taken into account while fixing the ceiling price. "This will enable the pharmaceutical industry to continue on its growth trajectory. Further, this NLEM includes four patented medicines for which companies have had robust access

mechanism in place for India. The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) is concerned with this inclusion of the four patented drugs and the implication it has on value for innovation," he said.

How are drugs eliminated and added to the list?

For inclusion in NLEM, the drugs have to be useful in treating diseases which are a public health problem in India. They have to be licensed/approved by the Drugs Controller General (DCGI), have proven efficacy, a safety profile based on scientific evidence, comparatively cost effective, and aligned with the current treatment guidelines. They have to be recommended under the National Health Programs of India (for instance, ivermectin is part of the Accelerated Plan for Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis, 2018). When more than one medicine is available from the same therapeutic class, a prototype that is the best suited medicine of that class is included. Besides this, the price of the total treatment is considered and not the unit price of a medicine. Fixed dose combinations are usually not included.

A medicine is deleted from the list if it is banned in India; if there are reports of concerns on the safety profile and if a medicine with better efficacy and is cheaper is available. If the disease, for which a particular medicine is recommended, is no longer a national health concern, the drug is taken off the list. Additionally, in case of antimicrobials – if the resistance pattern has rendered an antimicrobial ineffective, it is removed from the NLEM.

What is the purpose of having a list?

The primary purpose of the NLEM is to promote rational use of medicines considering three important aspects which are cost, safety and efficacy. It also helps in optimum utilisation of healthcare resources and budget, drug procurement policies, health insurance, improving prescribing habits, medical education and training and drafting pharmaceutical policies. In NLEM, the medicines are categorised based on the level of the healthcare system as primary, secondary and tertiary.

The NLEM is a dynamic document and is revised on a regular basis considering the changing public health priorities as well as advancement in pharmaceutical knowledge.

The National List of Essential Medicines was first formulated in 1996 and was revised thrice in 2003, 2011 and 2015, before 2022. The NLEM independent Standing National Committee on Medicines (SNCM) was constituted by the Union Health Ministry in 2018. After detailed consultation with experts and stakeholders, the committee revised the NLEM, 2015 and submitted its report on NLEM, 2022 to the Health Ministry. The government accepted the recommendations of the committee and adopted the list.

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Text & Context

A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) which includes explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (September 15, Thursday), the following explainers are available:

- **Explained |** Ukraine's counter-offensive bit.ly/ukraineconf

Online exclusives

- **Opinion |** Of places and rulers, names and name changes bit.ly/namechangeop
- **Data |** With old guards waning and new stars failing to shine, can teen Carlos Alcaraz reverse the trend? bit.ly/datacarlos
- **Watch |** India's move to bring back cheetahs bit.ly/cheetahvideo
- *You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.*

Wealthy spared, but poor are targeted, say residents

'We have proper documents and occupancy certificates issued by BBMP itself'

DARSHAN DEVAIAH B.P.
BENGALURU

Santhosh Kumar, a resident of Papaiah Reddy Layout in Mahadevapura Zone was shocked to see JCBs turn up at his house on Wednesday morning. Within a few minutes, they demolished his compound wall claiming that they have encroached the storm-water drains (SWDs). BBMP officials even said this was only a warning and they would return in a week and demolish all encroachments.

Not just Santhosh, around 15 residents of the layout complained that they were not informed prior to the demolition by civic officials. Residents also complained that their building plans were approved and Occupancy Certificates were also issued by Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and wondered how did the civic body clear their projects if they were encroaching SWDs. Following heavy rains in the city, which led to a flood-like situation, the civic body Monday started removing illegal encroachments of SWD and lakes in various parts of the city, especially in the Mahadevapura and Yelahanka zones.

"The layout was developed almost 20 years back. We know that this place was an agriculture land earlier. Today, BBMP JCB came and demolished the compound wall and gate without any prior notice to us. When asked, they just told us we have encroached the rajakaluve," Mr. Santosh said. "As per the documents, there are no rajakaluve and we did not encroach any SWD. This is not the right way to clear encroachments – demolishing our properties without any prior notice," he added. Another resident, Saraswathi said the officials were rude to them and did not even listen to their concerns.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike undertaking an anti-encroachment drive to remove illegal structures at Challaghatta in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

"No intimation on this drive was given to us, when asked the officials were rude and told us this is just a warning and in a few days they will come and demolish all the alleged encroachments. We have built our house after taking bank loans, if it is an encroached property how does the authority approve the plan for the building?" she questioned.

Meanwhile, BBMP officials present at the spot said that this is a warning to the building owners and that in a few days they will serve a notice before conducting further demolition drive. Speaking to *The Hindu*, a BBMP official said, "We have all the proof that parts of this building have encroached on the SWDs in this area. We have conducted a survey based on this we are conducting the drive to remove the encroachment. As a warning, we have removed the gate and the compound wall of the layout and tahsildar will serve them notice and action will be taken soon," he added.

On Wednesday, the civic body also demolished a few building walls including a compound wall built by Sri Chaitanya School in Shantiniketan Layout in Munnekolala. Shashidar Murthy, a resident of Munnekollal, said, "We all have proper documents and importantly occupancy certificates were issued by BBMP itself, then how come all of sudden BBMP came to know SWD present here that too after years? Why did they issue an occupancy certificate if the building has encroached a drain?" Residents also alleged that the authorities only targeted the layouts of poor and middle-class people, not rich people.

"The BBMP without serving notice to us are demolishing our property at the same time the BBMP has not even touched the tech parks and big builders' property in the city despite everyone knowing they have encroached. This is how the wealthy are spared and poor like us are targeted, Why BBMP is in fear of acting against rich people?" Mr Murthy questioned.

According to the BBMP Chief Commissioner, 696 encroachments have been identified in the city, and 96 of them have been removed so far.

Slow action against big builders and tech parks draws ire

'We will not spare anyone who has encroached the drains'

Demolition of illegal structures under way at Varadharaja Nagar in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

DARSHAN DEVAIAH B.P.
BENGALURU

The city's civic body has been on a demolition spree removing encroachments of storm-water drains (SWDs), especially in Mahadevapura zone, that saw heavy flooding recently. The drive has mostly focused on residential pockets dominated by middle-class residents. Even though a recent survey in August had listed at least 15 encroachments by leading tech parks, IT companies, hospitals, educational institutes and apartment complexes by leading builders in the zone, the civic body is yet to take their JCBs to these high-profile properties.

A senior BBMP official said a survey was carried out and notices served to these 15 properties on August 17, much before the floods. These include Bagmane Tech Park, Wipro, Eco Space, Gopalan in Bellandur, Hoodi and Sonnehalli, Diya School, Rainbow Drive Layout, Columbia Asia Hospital, New Horizon College, Adarsha retreat, Epysion and Diya Shree, Prestige, Salarpuria and Adarsha apartments and Nalapad Academy.

Of them, BBMP initiated action at Bagmane Tech Park on Saturday. But the techpark approached Karnataka Lokayukta, which directed both the parties to follow due procedure. Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said that Bagmane Tech Park had agreed to remove the compound wall which is encroaching the SWD. "However, they have raised the issue that if the wall is removed, it will flood the tech park area. We will take up a survey soon and we will remove encroachments there and at the nearby Puravankara property too," he said.

BBMP has initiated some action at Ecospace, New Horizon College and Nalapad Academy and not on other high-profile properties on the list. On the second day of the drive, the BBMP officials demolished 90 metres of the compound wall of Nalapad Academy, owned by Shanthinagar Congress MLA N.A. Haris. The MLA said he was not aware of the encroachment and he was not served a notice. "I have asked them to submit a report," he said.

Senior civic officials said that there was a shortage of surveyors and the drive will gather steam in a week's time once more surveyors are deployed. However, not many are buying the argument. Residents whose properties are being demolished have alleged they were being targeted while the rich and powerful spared. Responding to the allegation Mr. Giri Nath said, "We will not spare anyone who has encroached the drains which had led to flooding in the city after recent rains. We will take action while following all the rules."

Meanwhile, on Wednesday, the BBMP removed encroached structures in 11 places in the Mahadevapura, Yelahanka and West zones of the city.

In the Mahadevapura zone, the BBMP removed illegal structures at Shantiniketan Layout, Papaiah Reddy Layout, Vagdevi Layout, Challaghatta and in Yelahanka zone, it has removed four encroachments in Kuvempu Nagar ward, Singapura and Abbigere. In the West zone, two encroachments are removed in Subhash Nagara.

'Strict action against encroachers'

BENGALURU

Muzrai Minister Shashikala Jolle on Wednesday informed the Legislative Council that stringent action would be initiated against encroachers of land belonging to Dharmaraya Swamy temple in Bengaluru. "A decision on handing over the case to a SIT will be taken after discussion with the Revenue Minister," she said.

Responding to BJP member N. Ravi Kumar, the Minister said there are over 200 encroachers who have built unauthorised constructions on land in various locations that come under this temple.

Adopt humanitarian approach to tackle encroachments: HDK

'There is a need for permanent solution to flooding in city'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy on Wednesday urged the government to adopt a comprehensive method of clearing encroachments on rajakaluves based on a detailed report and with a humanitarian approach instead of the present method of resorting to demolition as a knee-jerk reaction.

Participating in a debate in the Legislative Assembly on the problems faced by people due to the recent heavy rains, Mr. Kumaraswamy described the ongoing demolition drive against illegal structures that have come up on rajakaluves in Bengaluru as an "adhoc."

He argued that there was a dire need to have a comprehensive method that would take into considerations all the related issues on a long-term basis and provide a permanent solution to flooding in Bengaluru.

"I do not know where the government authorities are going to dump the debris of demolished structures. They must take such issues also into consideration," he argued.

He also stressed the need for having a humanitarian approach with respect to demolition drive. "The big land sharks have already made their profits by developing layouts and constructing either buildings or apartments on rajakaluves and also selling them off to gullible people. The question now is should we punish these innocent buyers and allow the land sharks to go scot free. The proposed comprehensive method of demolition should have a method to reach out to the roots of the problem by targeting the main land sharks rather than evicting only poor people," he argued.

He urged Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to get a detailed report on the entire episode of encroachment of rajakaluves in different areas of Bengaluru and the methods of handling them instead of resorting to demolition of a few structures in a hurry.

Pointing out that the State Cabinet had adopted a stand of not closing any tank, even if it is dried up, in 1985, based on a report by bureaucrat Laxman Rau, Mr. Kumaraswamy said the subsequent governments had acted against such a stand by closing down a series of tanks in Bengaluru. In fact, Bengaluru Development Authority was the main culprit as it closed down a slew of prominent lakes in Bengaluru to develop residential layouts, he alleged.

Former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy speaking in the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday.

Officials asked to save houses if possible: CM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

While declaring that he had instructed officials not to stop the demolition drive against encroachers succumbing to pressure, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Wednesday also said he had suggested to them to consider the option of saving the houses wherever there was an alternative.

Replying to the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, he said it was time to stop the blame game. "There is no end to the process if we try to blame the previous dispensations for the problem and try to find out who exactly was responsible for the problem of encroachment," he said. "We have instead decided to cleanse the system now and ensure that the problem of flooding does not recur."

Meanwhile, Revenue Minister R. Ashok said the rains were unprecedented as the groundwater table in the State had reported an average increase of three meters. Similarly, 70% of tanks in the state were filled up due to rains, he noted.

Residents' grievance cells established in each ward

This has been done following a High Court directive

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Following the Karnataka High Court order to set up cells to address the grievances of citizens affected by the heavy rains and flood situation in several areas, the BBMP has set up a 'citizens grievances redressal cell' in every ward.

On August 31, the High Court directed the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to immediately set up cells to address the grievances of citizens affected by the heavy rains and flood in the city.

On Wednesday, the civic body published the list of assistant engineers, assistant executive engineers and executive engineers of all the wards and eight zones' contact numbers on the BBMP website (www.bbmp.gov.in).

The public can file their grievances either in verbal or written format to the designated person in the word office," BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said in a notification.

However, the BBMP has not issued an updated list of 'citizens grievances redressal cell' for the newly formed 243 wards and Mr. Tushar Giri Nath said: "The civic body will host the updated list shortly."

Earlier, the court direction mandated the setting up of a cell in each ward which will have an engineer who will attend to the grievance of the public.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Single Tender Notice No. 26/WYS/2022 of 08.09.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	**Mysuru Division :** Annual Maintenance Contract for OMS equipment.	Rs. 2,30,100/-
2	**Mysuru Division :** Annual Maintenance Contract of Digital Single Rail Tester, Model : DS-329, EEC Make.	Rs. 1,20,938/-
3	**Mysuru Division :** Annual Maintenance Contract for Digital Ultrasonic Testing Equipment for welded railjoints WT-311D, PARAS Make.	Rs. 4,92,500/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 30-09-2022**

For details log on: www.inepa.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer / Co-ordination
PUB/356/AAS/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Mysuru**

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

All INDIA PENSION ADALAT - 2022

South Western Railway will be holding **All India Pension Adalat - 2022** simultaneously at the offices of Headquarters, Divisions, Workshops & Bengaluru Construction on **Thursday, 15th December 2022,** pertaining to grievances of Retired Employees / Dependants of deceased employees in respect of Pension, Settlement dues & Medical Allowance.

Last date for receipt of Applications for the Adalat will be **02-11-2022.** It may be noted that the grievances received after the closure date i.e. 02-11-2022, may not be possible to deal in the All India Pension Adalat - 2022.

For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Chief Personnel Officer / Admin
PUB/357/AAS/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Hubballi**

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

e-Procurement Cell
JHARKHAND STATE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LTD., RANCHI

CORRIGENDUM

Sl. No.	PR No.	
1	275587	Preservation and Development of Luguburu and Other Tribal Historic and Pilgrimage sites at Bokaro District.
2	Corrigendum No.	01

➢ **Date has been extended for tenders referenced vide PR No. 275587 are as follows:-**

	Previous Date	Date Extended
Last Date/Time of Submission of Bids	14.09.2022 at 05:00 PM	10.10.2022 at 05:00 PM
Last Date/Time of Submission of Bid Security Money and Tender Fee	16.09.2022 upto 11:30 AM	12.10.2022 upto 11:30 AM
Date/Time of opening of Bid	16.09.2022 at 12:00 PM	12.10.2022 at 12:00 PM

Other Terms & Conditions shall remain Unchanged.

Executive Director JSBCCL, Ranchi

PR277828 (Jharkhand State Building Construction Corp. ltd.)22-23*D

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NAMARTA daughter of Vinod Kumar Mishra, resident of SMQ 615/2 7th Camp, Air Force Station Jalahalli East, Bangaluru have changed my Name from NAMARTA to NAMRATA MISHRA vide Affidavit dated 13-09-2022 before notary GR Ravichandra Reddy Bengaluru

I, RUPESH Kumar, R/a No.1344/A, Vijayamma Building, 11th Cross, R.K.Hegde Nagara, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560077 hereby state that I have changed my name from John Paul to Rupesh Kumar vide affidavit dt: 26.08.2022 sworn before Notary L.Gopalakrishna, B'lore.

I used to be known as Salome Victor Masih D/o Victor B M, Residing at #105, 1st Floor, Elite Apartment, 1st Main Vinayaka Layout, Swatantra Nagar, Opp Manasa Bakery, K R Puram, Banglore North, Karnataka-560036 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Salome Masih. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

I, N B Lovely W/O JC-725897M Nb Sub Kunjappa J M residing at Kodagarahally Village & Post, Kushalnagar Tq, Kodagu District, Karnataka have changed my name to Lowly N B vide affidavit dated on 06.09.2022. Sworn Notary Before : Chandrakala

I KIFAYATH Pasha L son of Liyakath Pasha residing at D No 1404 14th Floor Tower B The Icon G Corp North Thanisandra Main Road Elements Mall Bengaluru Karnataka 560077 have changed my minor son's name Muhammad Umar to Muhammad Umar K aged 3 years and 11 months

I, KAREENA Zehra Mubarak Ali Mody D/o Mubarak Ali Mody residing at No.10/15, 1st Cross, Lakshmi Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bengaluru-560027 Karnataka have changed my name to Kareena Zehra Mody vide affidavit dated 14/09/2022 before C V Easrappa Notary, Bengaluru.

I, LT COL Ajitha Kumari T Y Service No. NR 20753N spouse of Col Nise Mon Kuriakose (Retd) No.7A, Cordial Casilda, Kochuloor, Ulloor Medical College P O, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695011 have changed my name from Ajitha Nise Mon to Ajitha Kumari T Y vide affidavit dated 14-09-2022 before Notary A. R. Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

TENDERS

No:RPCKL/20/2022-23 e-tender 02/2022, Dated: 12-09-2022

E-TENDER NOTICE

Renewable power corporation of Kerala limited invites competitive e-tender for appointment of Consultant / Expert Agency for preparation of DPR for the proposed 100MW Solar Park at Cheemeni, Kasaragod District, Kerala. Tender notice can be downloaded from the website www.etenders.kerala.gov.in from 13-09-2022, 15.00 Hrs to 07-10-2022, 17.30 Hrs. Further details can be seen from the same site.

Sd/-, Chief Executive Officer

PERSONAL

THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING

Thankyou for favours received - RVS

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF VI ADDITIONAL FIRST CIVIL JUDGE (Jr. Div) AT MYSURU
O.S. No. 1012/2019

BETWEEN
ICICI Bank Ltd.
Having its Registered Office at ICICI Bank Towers, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodra-390007
and
1st Floor, Deeskha Setty Mansion, Rama Vilasa Road, Mysuru- 16 Represented by its Authorized Representative
...Plaintiff

Mr. Swamy G.K.
And
Sabitha K.N. ...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

To,
Smt. Sabitha K.N.
D/o. Harijana Kururaish Nanjappa Aged about 34 years, R/a. 507, Aditi Nilaya, Giridarshini Layout, Near Chamundeshwari Store, Mysore- 570028

Whereas the Plaintiff has instituted the above proceedings against you seeking recovery of Rs.3,32,448.88/- (as on 19/06/2019) along with interest at 18% p.a. and other consequential reliefs.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Court in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the above proceedings on the **10.10.2022** at **11 A.M.** take Notice that in default of your appearance on the day mention before, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court, this 29th day of Aug 2022.

By Order of the Court,
Chief Ministerial Officer,
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Mysuru

Advocate For Plaintiff
Apoorvananda. K,
MIG 32, Ground Floor,
Nrupathunga Road,
Kuvempunagar
Mysore-570023

CCB busts illegal international telephone exchange racket, arrests five from Kerala

The accused were running it from three locations in Bengaluru

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The officials of the economic wing of the Central Crime Branch recently busted a illegal international telephone exchange racket and arrested five persons from Kerala running it from three different locations of the city for the last few months.

Based on a tip-off from the central telecom department, the CCB registered a case and tracked down the firms situated in Koramangala, Mico Layout, and Rajajinagar.

Raman Gupta, Joint Commissioner of Police, said the accused – Dennish Pavoor, Vipin K.P., Subhash, Bejin Joseph, and Shammad Shjahan – are from Kerala having strong technical background. They opened the firms under the names Bizhub Solutions (OPC) Pvt. Ltd, Orture, Technologies Pvt. Ltd and Time Info Technology (9OPC) Pvt. Ltd., claiming them as call centers for tourism customer care, and operating the facility through an SIP trunk line of a leading telecom company to convert VoIP calls from Gulf countries to local calls.

Using this method, the accused would manage 24 lakh minutes of international calls in 60 days while from another firm 68 lakh minutes of international calls in 40 days.

The racket has not only resulted in a huge loss to the government and the telecom department but also pose a threat to national security, Mr. Gupta said adding that the CCB would continue to investigate to ascertain details of their network.

CACHE

A shadow library ban pits publishers against free information activists

Shadow libraries like LibGen and Sci-Hub have become a thorn in the flesh for large publishers who wield control over nearly half of all scientific literature and make a hefty profit from selling journals to university libraries

THE GIST

- Shadow or mirror libraries are online databases that duplicate digital records like e-books or academic articles. They are structured in a way to minimise space for backup data while enabling the continuation of critical processing in the event of the loss of a disk containing related databases.
- In December, 2020, publishers Elsevier, American Chemical Society (ACS), and Wiley filed a lawsuit against Sci-Hub, a shadow library, in the Delhi High Court. Their aim is to compel Indian internet service providers to block both Sci-Hub and Libgen.
- Libraries like Sci-hub battle to make information free for all. The site lets users download scientific papers and academic literature at no cost. The resources available in the library are pay-walled content taken from prominent journals.

JOHN XAVIER
SAHANA VENUGOPAL

In early August, Indian users who accessed a website that once let them download books and scholarly journals for free found themselves locked out of the site. The landing page to Z-Library refused to load, and for some flashed a warning banner stating the site had been blocked by a court order. The block follows Delhi Tis Hazari Court's (West) order to India's Ministry of Communications and IT to direct Internet Service Providers (ISP) to block Z-Library's website "within a period of one week from today (on August 1)". The Ministry of Communications and IT was also one of the 12 defendants in the case against the shadow library, filed by Taxmann Publications Pvt. Ltd.

Z-Library is a mirror of Library Genesis (LibGen), one of the most popular shadow libraries, that lets visitors access copyrighted books and scholarly journals for free, much to the chagrin of e-book and academic journal publishers. Shadow or mirror libraries are online databases that duplicate digital records like e-books or academic articles. They are structured in a way to minimise space for backup data while enabling the continuation of critical processing in the event of the loss of a disk containing related databases. This has enabled several users to quickly compile a list of unblocked links that could take them to the banned website via another digital route. Publishers have censured these 'rogue websites 'for stealing copyrighted content. In one instance, these sites were compared to the mythological nine-headed serpent called Hydra. It was believed that if one of its heads was cut off, two more would appear to take its place.

But several academicians and authors support the existence of such online repositories for advancing science and knowledge.

The role of the publisher

Scientists and researchers are funded by governments or foundations to carry out research and experiments. They share their findings and knowledge with broader society through journals owned by large publishers. Authors do not receive any compensation for publishing their work in journals. They voluntarily submit their articles to these publishers to get them peer-reviewed. These reviewers are unsung heroes who go through pre-print scientific articles for free and share their comments.

Once approved for publishing, in most cases, the publisher who runs the journal gets the article's copyright transferred to itself from the author. It then sells the paper on either a pay-per-use or a bulk subscription model to readers. In the pre-digital era, publishers had to incur the cost of printing, packaging and posting copies of the journal to subscribers in various parts of the world. Their primary readers were students and scholars in universities, which received the journals and stacked them in their libraries for access.

The Internet age that began in the early nineties saw an explosion of interest for the concept of open access in academic circles. The idea of its proponents was simple: as the cost of making a digital copy is practically zero, access to scientific articles must be made free. The new millennium also brought in an era where electronic data could be made available almost instantly everywhere. The digital age brought down the cost of publishing and distribution for publishers.

The open access movement

This moment was rightly captured by the Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI) two decades ago. The initiative arose from a conference convened by the Open Society Institute in Budapest, Hungary. BOAI is a declaration of principles relating to the open access movement.

"An old tradition and a new technology have converged to make possible an unprecedented public good," BOAI's first sentence of its 2002 Declaration reads. "The old tradition is the willingness of scientists and scholars to publish the fruits of their research in scholarly journals without payment, for the sake of inquiry and knowledge. The new technology is the internet. The public good they make possible is the world-wide electronic distribution of the peer-reviewed journal literature and completely free and unrestricted access to it by all scientists, scholars, teachers, students, and other curious minds."

About the same time, Creative Commons (CC), a U.S.-based non-profit organisation came out in support of expanding access to a range of creative works available for others to build upon legally. Wikipedia is one of CC's licensees.

Just two years after the open access movement began, several universities in the U.S. threatened to cancel subscriptions to academic journals in protest at what they called exorbitant pricing. "It's not just that the prices have risen much faster than inflation, it's the practice of 'bundling 'journals together. Often, we have to buy hundreds of journals we don't want to get those we do," Michael Keller, University Librarian at Stanford told the *British Medical Journal* about the institute's plan to cancel subscriptions.

Such threats led to publishers reworking their business model. One economic decision that came out of this tussle was the 'author pays 'model, which meant that the author had to pay the journal for publishing their article online.

The making of shadow libraries

While publishers were tinkering with their business model to find a profitable way forward, a database was slowly being built in post-Soviet land with the help of hundreds of thousands of uncoordinated contributions.

This massive network came to be called Library Genesis (LibGen) in 2008, and due to its complex history, it is unclear who the actual owner of the site is. Between then and April 2014, according to an analysis by Bodó Balázs, a researcher at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, the size of the LibGen catalog grew from nearly 34,000 to nearly 1.2 million records. This has nearly tripled in the last seven years to roughly 3.2 million records.

Another shadow library that grew in prominence during this time is Sci-Hub, which offers scientific journals and papers for free to users. Both SciHub and LibGen share copyrighted books and articles for free, and the duo are known to operate around the Russian-speaking milieu. Balázs notes that both these shadow libraries exist and thrive in Russia due to lax copyright law, weak IP protection rules, and early access to modern computers in the country. He points out that this part of the world had early access to desktops and databases, which helped them develop large-scale digital text archives.

Information for all

Shadow libraries like LibGen and SciHub have become a thorn in the flesh for large publishers who wield control over nearly half of all scientific literature and make a hefty profit from selling journals to university libraries. In 2021, Netherlands-based Elsevier's publishing arm, the owner of journals like *Cell* and *Lancet*, reported profits of around $1.1 billion on $3 billion revenue.

While investors are happy, scientists submitting their articles to large publishers know they are getting a bad deal. This is one of the major reasons why digital piracy is an ever-raging controversy in academic circles as people confront questions relating to the ethics of piracy while wrangling with legal publishing models which underpay contributors and depend heavily on unpaid volunteers.

A case in point is Sci-Hub's battle to make information free for all. Founded by Alexandra Elbakyan, a scholar and programmer, the site lets users download scientific papers and academic literature. The resources available in the library are pay-walled content taken from prominent journals. This database has been in the cross-hairs of large publishing houses like Elsevier, Wiley and American Chemical Society (ACS). Elsevier has taken Sci-Hub to court in more than one nation. In 2017, in the U.S., a New York district court awarded Elsevier $15 million in damages after ruling that Sci-Hub violated U.S. copyright law. In December, 2020, Elsevier, ACS, and Wiley filed a lawsuit against Sci-Hub in the Delhi High Court, and have named Elbakyan as a defendant. Their aim is to compel Indian ISPs to block both Sci-Hub and LibGen.

"Pirate websites like Sci-Hub threaten the integrity of the scientific record, and the safety of university and personal student data. They compromise the security of libraries and higher education institutions to gain unauthorised access to scientific databases and other proprietary intellectual property, and illegally harvest journal articles and e-books," said Elsevier in a statement to *The Hindu*

Indian users

Elbakyan – and some users in India – remain undeterred. A chart on the Sci-Hub site showed that India was one of the top five countries in terms of downloaded articles per month, with over two million downloads to its name at the last count – though this may not be accurate due to VPN and robot use. Users in China have downloaded over 30 million copies a month at the last count.

"We can also say, that knowledge belongs to people. Academic publishers have stolen that knowledge from people and locked behind expensive paywalls. Hence the task is to return knowledge back to the people," Elbakyan told *The Hindu*. Elsevier countered by stating it was helping the research community in its own way. The publisher said that since the start of the pandemic, ACS, Elsevier, and Wiley made their COVID-19 articles available for free. It also said it that it offered free virtual workshops attended by over 40,000 people in India.

The Netherlands-based publisher is firm on taking the legal route to regulate shadow libraries, pointing out that India does the same for its pirated movies. "The American Chemical Society (ACS), Elsevier and Wiley have applied to the High Court of Delhi in New Delhi requesting that Indian internet service providers block access to the pirate websites Sci-Hub and LibGen within the country," said Elsevier in its statement.

An author's perspective

Some published authors don't agree with banning shadow libraries. Indian constitutional law scholar and science fiction author Gautam Bhatia even cited a shadow library in the acknowledgements section of his book, *The Transformative Constitution: A Radical Biography in Nine Acts* (HarperCollins India, 2019). He admitted that writing his book wouldn't have been possible without LibGen, as they were many books he couldn't afford. He further added in his note that, "doing scholarly work outside the gated precincts of a university is like trying to swim with one arm and one leg."

Incidentally, Mr. Bhatia's own science fiction novel, *The Wall* (HarperCollins India, 2020), was available for download on Z-Library. He pointed out that fiction writers need to show rising sales numbers for more publishing opportunities, but scientists and researchers rely on factors such as citations and peer reviews. "I mean, readers should be aware of that. They should be aware that if on an individual level, everyone downloads from Z-Library, then yeah, the author that you like enough to download [their] books – they're not able to write more. But that's it: that's an individual call for individual people to make. I have no judgment on anyone who does download books to read because you know, they still cost money," Mr. Bhatia told *The Hindu*.

From a legal perspective, he noted that jurisdictions and internet service providers treated movie and television piracy with more seriousness than book piracy, depending on the location. For now, only website access through one of the main URLs to Z-Library is blocked, rather than a total shut down of the shadow library. According to a court filing from September 7, Taxmann Publications has also asked the court to block an alternate link allegedly created by Z-Library.

As of September 1, Z-Library boasted a collection of 11,087,784 books and 84,837,645 articles.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Sir M. Visvesvaraya, often referred to by his initials, MV, was the first Indian civil engineer, and the 19th Diwan of Mysore, serving from 1912 to 1918. His birthday, September 15, is celebrated as Engineers' Day in India, Sri Lanka and Tanzania. Here is a quiz on this notable statesman.

1 Two metro stations in India are named after M.V. Name the stations and the cities they are located in.

2 Visvesvaraya favoured the setting up of large-scale industries in the country. However, this was opposed by this freedom fighter who had written to him saying they hold diametrically opposite views. Name the freedom fighter.

3 A devastating flood that occurred in 1908, killed nearly 50,000 people. Later, Visversvaraya was invited to assist in the reconstruction of the city and devise measures for the prevention of the recurrence of such a catastrophe. A dam was built across the river, upstream from the city. Another reservoir was built on the tributary of the main river seven years later. Name the two reservoirs. In which city were these built?

4 India's first hydroelectric power station is located at these two waterfalls and is still functional. The project was designed by Diwan Sheshadri Iyer and Diwan Sir M. Visvesvaraya of the Kingdom of Mysuru. Name the two waterfalls.

5 Along with the KRS Dam, MV also designed the Khadakvasla Reservoir near Pune. He designed and constructed a particular type of gate which was installed at Khadakvasla Reservoir, Tigra Dam and KRS Dam. What are these gates called?

◄ Identify this educational institution. In which city is it located? What is the campus called?

Compiled by: Sindhu Nagaraj

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This poet features in the national side of the Italian €2 coin. **Ans: Dante Alighieri**

2. This economist appears on the £20 notes issued by the Bank of England. **Ans: Adam Smith**

3 This monarch is the most featured woman on a banknote worldwide. **Ans: Queen Elizabeth II**

4. In 2018, the RBI issued ₹10 denomination banknotes with a motif of this 13th-century temple on the reverse. **Ans: Sun Temple, Konark**

5. This political figure appears on the Pakistani 10 rupee coin. **Ans: Benazir Bhutto**

6. This communist leader is depicted in all denominations of the Vietnamese bank note. **Ans: Ho Chi Minh**

Visual: This writer of fiction and screenplays features on the 20 kronor banknote. **Ans: Astrid Lindgren**

Early Birds: M. Thaha Ibrahim Buhari| Prijin George Koshy| Mahmood Lebbai| Nandana

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, SEP. 15	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:21
RISE 22:04	SET 10:18
FRIDAY, SEP. 16	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:20
RISE 22:49	SET 11:11
SATURDAY, SEP. 17	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:19
RISE 23:37	SET 12:03

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	30	20
Bengaluru	28	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain or thundershower is possible.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower at some places.

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THE HINDU
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Govt. moves Division Bench on CET ranking

Appeal listed for hearing today

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

FROM THE COURT

The State government filed an appeal before a Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka challenging the single judge's order of quashing CET-2022 ranking for UG engineering courses and directing the Karnataka Examinations Authority to redo the ranking by taking II PU marks and CET-2022 marks in the ratio of 50:50, even for the students who passed II PU in 2021.

The appeal is listed for hearing before the Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice S. Vishwajith Shetty on Thursday.

The government, in its appeal, has contended that the single judge had erred in holding that the rule amended in 2021 to consider only the marks of CET to allot ranks in CET-2021 in view of non-holding of II PU exams in the year 2021 due to COVID-19 was applicable only to the students who wrote CET-2021.

The government said that those students, who were awarded with marks for II PU in 2021 by way of a special methodology in view of non-conduct of II PU exams, cannot claim parity with students who wrote II PU exams in 2022.

The students who passed II PU in 2021 and reappeared for CET-2022 cannot be equated with the students, who passed II PU in 2022 by writing full-fledged exams for consideration of marks in 50:50 ratio as per the rule applicable for considering 50% marks of the qualifying exam, that is the II PU exam.

Special methodology

The students who benefited in passing II PU in 2021 through the marks awarded to them by way of a special methodology cannot claim consideration of their II PU marks for CET ranking merely because they reappeared for the CET-2022, the government has contended in its appeal.

The rule, amended in 2021 for considering only CET marks to allot ranks applicable to the II PU students who were beneficiaries of marks awarded by way of special methodology due to non conduct of II PU exams, is applicable to them irrespective of whether they appeared for CET-2021 or CET-2022.

KEA draws up alternative rank lists accounting for CET repeaters

Scenarios are CET-2022 and II PUC marks in 50:50 and 75:25 ratio for repeaters

JAYANTH R.
BENGALURU

Even as the State government has challenged the September 3 High Court order on CET-2022 repeaters, the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) has drawn up alternative rank lists by taking into account CET-2022 and II PUC marks in 50:50 and 75:25 ratio for repeaters, in a bid to be prepared for the scenarios that might emerge.

Alternative rank lists

Rank range	Cut off percentage	CET marks 100%	CET-PUC 75:25	CET-PUC 50:50
1 - 1,000	85.66	1	5	64
1,000-3,000	80.05	8	41	657
3,000-5,000	77.16	17	77	862
5,000-8,000	74.27	22	82	1,110
8,000-10,000	72.83	14	198	644

According to these alternative rank lists, if KEA considers repeaters' CET and II PUC marks in 75:25 ratio, only five students will find a place in the 1 to 1,000 rank category and if they consider in 50:50 ratio, 64 repeaters will fall in this category.

Furthermore, as many as 10,056 students will get placed in between 1,000 to 1 lakh ranks if they consider in 75:25 ratio, while 19,801 repeaters will find place in this bracket if 50:50 ratio is taken into account.

Total 24,074 repeaters

This year, a total of 24,074 repeaters took CET-2022 for entry into professional courses like engineering. However, KEA considered II PUC marks and CET marks in 50:50 ratio for freshers and declared result.

But it excluded II PUC marks of repeaters and considered only the marks obtained in the CET-2022. Repeaters had passed II PUC in 2021 without writing exams, as marks were awarded through a special scheme formulated in view of COVID-19.

As per this method of marking and ranking, considering only CET marks, of the 24,074 repeaters, only 3,521 students found place in between 1,000 to 1 lakh ranks.

Only one student got a place above 1,000th rank. Only 70 students fell in between the 10,000 to 15,000 rank category and 514 students were in between the 90,000 to 1 lakh rank category.

This method of ranking was challenged in the High Court, which quashed the CET-2022 engineering rankings and ordered the State government and the KEA to redo the CET-2022 ranking by taking II PUC and CET-2022 marks even for the petitioner students (repeaters) who have passed II PUC in 2021.

The State government has now challenged this order. Meanwhile, KEA has also drawn up alternative ranking lists by way of preparation on the basis of 75:25 and 50:50 ratio of CET and II PUC marks.

Draft seat matrix released

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The State government has released a draft seat matrix for engineering (1,15,945 seats) and architecture courses (2,296 seats) for the academic year 2022-23.

A total of 74,872 seats are available in private colleges, 5,140 seats in government colleges, 3,200 in aided college, 8,910 seats in minority institutions, 17,160 seats in private universities, 2,040 in engineering deemed universities. Apart from this 4,623 seats have been earmarked for supernumerary quota. Of this, 53,108 seats have been declared government quota seats and 58,214 seats provided for private management quota. Owing to three new government engineering colleges, the government quota of engineering seats has increased by 672 seats compared to 2021-22.

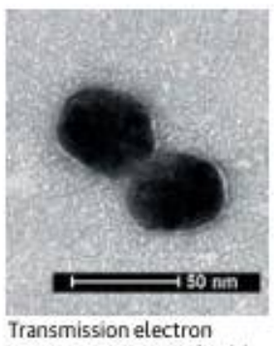
A total of 2,296 architecture seats are available for 2022-23. While 38 seats are available in government colleges, there are 1,890 in private colleges and 300 in private universities. Of these, 1,015 seats have been declared government quota and 1,213 have been given to private management quota. A total of 68 seats have been earmarked for diploma quota (5%).

IISc. scientists develop gold-coated vesicles to fight tuberculosis

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

To combat tuberculosis, researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc.) have designed a new method under which a vaccine candidate for the disease can be delivered by making use of Outer Membrane Vesicles (OMVs).

These spherical vesicles, which can be delivered to immune cells, are secreted by bacteria coated on gold nanoparticles. The deliverance is expected to potentially trigger an immune response to offer protection against TB.



Transmission electron microscope image of gold nanoparticles coated with bacterial Outer Membrane Vesicles. • EDNA GEORGE

Across the world, TB, which is caused by a bacterium called Mycobacterium tuberculosis, claims the lives of over a million people every year. Currently, BCG is the only effective vaccine against TB.

It contains a weakened form of the disease-causing bacterium, which when injected into the bloodstream, produces antibodies which can help fight the disease.

However, the scientists have said that the BCG vaccine does not protect adolescents and adults as effectively as it does children.

Prompted by this, Rachit Agarwal, Assistant Professor at the Centre for BioSystems Science and Engineering (BSSE), IISc., and his group worked on developing a potential subunit vaccine candidate that contains only parts of the infectious bacterium to stimulate an immune response.

Although other scientists had developed subunit vaccines based on a handful of proteins from the disease-causing bacteria earlier, they had not been effective in the treatment. Agarwal's group decided to take a slightly varied approach and made use of OMVs – which are spherical membrane-bound particles released by some bacteria, and contain an assortment of proteins and lipids which could induce an immune response against the pathogen.

"They're safer compared to a live bacterium, and since they are membrane-derived, they contain all kinds of antigens," explained Agarwal, the senior author of the paper published in *Biomaterials Advances*.

The researchers further explained that while subunit vaccines typically only contain a limited number of antigens – bacterial proteins that can elicit an immune response in the host, the OMVs contain a variety of antigens, which can induce a better immune response.

"Mycobacterium-derived OMVs are usually unstable and come in different sizes, making them unsuitable for vaccine applications. But the OMVs coated on gold nanoparticles (OMV-AuNPs) by the IISc team were found to be uniform in size and stable. The researchers also found that human immune cells showed a higher uptake of OMV-AuNPs (gold nanoparticles) than of OMVs or gold nanoparticles alone," said an IISc. press release.

According to Avijit Goswami, a former postdoctoral fellow at BSSE and one of the first authors of the study, the most challenging part was the production and scaling up of OMVs as it was a complex process. "To synthesise OMV-AuNPs, the OMVs and the gold nanoparticles are forced together through a 100 nm filter. The OMVs break up in the process and encapsulate the gold nanoparticles," explained Edna George, a former postdoctoral fellow at BSSE, and co-first author of the study.

During this study, the immune cells, which were cultured in the lab, were treated with OMVs derived from a related bacterial species which does not cause disease in humans, called as Mycobacterium smegmatis. Furthering their research, the team plans to develop gold-coated OMVs derived directly from Mycobacterium tuberculosis. They will then test the same on animal models and carry the results forward for clinical applications.

"Such efforts could open up new avenues for the development of vaccines for other bacterial diseases as well," the release said.

Direct flight from Bengaluru to Sydney launched

Qantas will operate the flight four days a week

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A direct flight from Kempegowda International Airport to Australia was launched on Wednesday. The new service from Bengaluru to Sydney by Australia's national airline Qantas has cut three hours from the current fastest travel time between the two cities.

The new service between Bengaluru and Sydney by Qantas has cut three hours from the current fastest travel time between the two cities. • AFP

The flight from Sydney landed at the KIA around 4.45 p.m. and the turn around flight left the city at around 6.35 p.m. A release from the BIAL stated that since the announcement of the new service earlier this year, the route has seen strong demand with both the outbound and inbound inaugural flights sold out in all cabins.

"The new service will provide new tourism opportunities for Bengaluru and India, with a direct gateway for Australian tourists to experience all that India has to offer. For people living in Bengaluru and southern India, it's a convenient non-stop flight to Sydney for a dream holiday or to visit friends and family," states the release.

Qantas will fly an A330 aircraft from Kempegowda International Airport to Sydney four times a week on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Mobile phone theft: 3 arrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The CCB officials arrested three armed men who were robbing passers-by of their mobile phones and valuables in and around the city over the last two months.

The police have recovered 621 mobile phones worth ₹50 lakh.

Based on a series of mobile robbery incidents, the CCB officials stepped up investigations and with the help of local intelligence network managed to track down the gang near Kadubeesanahalli bridge in a car waiting for their victims on Wednesday evening. While the police pinned down three persons, two others managed to escape.

INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY
(A Central University under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India)
East Coast Road, Semmencherry, CHENNAI – 600119

Advt No. IMU-HQ/C/13/16/07/2021/STDC Date: 15.09.2022

NOTIFICATION FOR SEVENTH CONVOCATION

It is hereby notified that the Seventh Convocation of the Indian Maritime University will be held on Friday, **the 4th November 2022,** at Indian Maritime University, Headquarters, Chennai.

Students who have completed Degree/Diploma programmes between **01st January 2021 and 14th October 2022** (*including final year batches of those who are awaiting re-valuation results of June, 2022 End Semester Examinations subject to their pass status on or before online application closing date*) are eligible for award of Ph.D Degree, PG/UG Degree and Diploma at the Convocation.

Accordingly, the qualified students are to register '*online*' through the link provided on the IMU website (www.imu.edu.in), irrespective of whether they receive their degree/diploma either in-person or in-absentia.

The link will be opened from **15.09.2022** till **17:00 hours on 14.10.2022.** The candidates are required to pay the Convocation fee (*only through online payment*), if they have not already paid. Candidates can either attend the Convocation and receive their degree/diploma **in-person** (OR) receive their degree/diploma **in-absentia** [i.e, to receive the Degree/Diploma Certificates by Speed Post].

It is further reiterated that candidates desirous of receiving their Degree/Diploma **in-person** must register online on or before **17:00 hours on 14.10.2022.**

REGISTRAR

SIDDHA CENTRAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Anna Govt. Hospital Campus, Arumbakkam, Chennai – 600106.

Personal / Virtual Interview
Applications are invited for the selection of Junior Research Fellow (Chemistry) - One for IMR project at SCRI, Chennai through Personal/Virtual interview which will be held on the date to be notified later. The last date for submission of the online application is 29.09.2022 (05.00 PM.). Details are available in the website www.siddhacouncil.com and www.crisiddha.tn.nic.in.

Walk-in Interview
Walk-in interview for the post of JRF (Pharmacology) - One for IMR research project at SCRI, Chennai will be held in the above address on 28.09.2022 at 10.00 a.m. Details available in the website www.siddhacouncil.com and www.crisiddha.tn.nic.in.

Assistant Director (Siddha), Sci-III& I/c

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No.RCC/462/2022-ADMN-2 **dated 05/09/2022**

Applications are invited for the post of **Nuclear Medicine Technologist** on contract basis in Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India.

Last date of receipt of application 26/09/2022.

For more details visit our please Website:
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22 depts. transferred ₹2,829 cr. benefit outside DBT portal: CAG

'Lack of ICT applications is among reasons for State's poor progress'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka's implementation and management of the direct benefit transfer (DBT) system have been poor and 22 departments transferred benefits of ₹2,829.02 crore under 168 schemes outside the core DBT portal, said the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India in its report.

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The CAG report on DBT, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday, noted, "The poor progress resulted in disbursements of benefits outside the DBT portal during 2018-20".

It noted that the slow progress in onboarding the schemes by the user departments was due to lack of ICT applications and digitisation of the beneficiaries' data.

The DBT Cell did not have the information on the number of schemes which were required to be identified for onboarding; and availability of the ICT infrastructure in the departments for the identified schemes.

The DBT Cell did not have the information on the status of beneficiary database digitisation and seeding of the beneficiary data with validated Aadhaar number that are necessary for onboarding, the report said.

Lack of IT skills

The government in December 2021 stated that the delay in the onboarding of the schemes was due to the non-availability of IT systems in many of the departments. It further said the user departments could not develop their own IT system due to lack of IT skills. The fact is that the Operations and Technical Groups of the DBT Cell failed to handhold the departments for timely onboarding of the schemes onto the DBT portal.

The State government ordered in August 2018 the establishment of an integrated DBT platform for all departments.

As of April 2021, 83 out of 239 schemes (35%) implemented by 15 departments were onboarded onto the core DBT portal. Further, 83% of the overall transactions done through DBT were successful, and 14% of the transactions were rejected.

Beneficiaries deprived

Failure to initiate action for payment resulted in 6.67 lakh beneficiaries being deprived of financial benefits of ₹153.3 crore during 2018-19 and 2019-2020, the report said.

It was observed that in 2,499 cases, a sum of ₹30.59 lakh was credited to persons other than the actual beneficiary under the milk incentive scheme. Payments of ₹5.94 crore were not routed through core DBT portal in respect of the National Food Security Mission.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, the DBT payments of ₹ 91.99 crore were pending from 2019-20, resulting in depriving the beneficiaries of the benefits.

The departments implementing the schemes under the DBT failed to rectify and reinitiate the failed transactions, the CAG noted.

Amid Hindi Divas protests, CM says law soon to make Kannada mandatory

There were protests at Vidhana Soudha and elsewhere in Bengaluru against State-sponsored event

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

While Hindi Divas on Wednesday saw protests by both Opposition parties and Kannada groups, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai informed the Legislative Assembly that a new law would be brought in to make Kannada "legally mandatory" and increase the use of the language.

JD(S) legislators, led by H.D. Kumaraswamy, staging a protest in front of the Gandhi statue on the Vidhana Soudha premises in Bengaluru on Wednesday against celebrating Hindi Divas.

Songs and placards

JD(S) MLAs staged a protest on the Vidhana Soudha premises against the move to celebrate Hindi Divas as a State-sponsored event, while Kannada groups such as Kannada Rakshana Vedike and Kannada Chaluvali Vatal Paksha staged protests in the city. In the Legislative Council, Opposition leaders held placards and wore yellow-and-red stoles, to protest Hindi Divas. JD(S) members, including S.L. Bhoje Gowda, sang a few lines of 'Barisu Kannada Dimdimava' by Rashtrakavi Kuvempu.

In the Assembly, Mr. Bommai spoke of the new law while replying to JD(S) Floor Leader H.D. Kumaraswamy, who urged the State government not to celebrate Hindi Divas with the taxpayers' money, saying it was tantamount to committing injustice to the State. The country is diverse and has many languages. Imposing the Central government-sponsored Hindi Divas in Karnataka would be a betrayal to Kannadigas by the ruling BJP, Mr. Kumaraswamy said. Mr. Bommai said the new law envisages "increasing the use of Kannada" in all spheres. It would promote and develop as well as make use of Kannada mandatory in the State administration. The government recently issued a circular asking all department heads to use Kannada language in official functions of the State and Central governments.

Legally binding

"For the first time, we will bring a law to make Kannada legally mandatory. Till now we have been speaking about Kannada being mandatory. There are several committees and an authority as well. But, they do have a legal framework. We have decided to bring a law to protect Kannada and Kannadigas," the Chief Minister said.

The Kannada language would be given priority in all activities. Under the National Education Policy, Karnataka would offer the engineering course in Kannada. Already one semester has been taught in the Kannada language in engineering colleges, Mr. Bommai said.

"India is a Union of States comprising several languages and cultures. Our government will not play politics when it comes to issues related to land, water, and language," Mr. Bommai added.

Investigation ordered into ₹431-crore borewell 'scam'

Priyank: Different rates fixed for sinking borewells for SC/ST, OBC categories

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Following charges levelled by the Congress of corruption and discrepancies in borewell drilling and installation of pump sets by the Backward Classes Department, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Wednesday said a probe would be conducted into the alleged ₹431-crore scam.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai speaking in the Legislative Assembly in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

Mr. Bommai said he would call a meeting of both ruling and Opposition members to find a solution to the delay in drilling borewells and providing power connections under the welfare schemes of the government.

Delay in borewells

In a reply to Yathindra Siddaramaiah, Priyank Kharge and other Congress members during the question hour, Mr. Bommai told the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday that there had been a delay in drilling borewells and providing power connections to borewells for the past several years. The previous year's target had been met this year owing to multiple factors, he said.

Mr. Kharge alleged that contractors of the Water Resources Department had been given contracts to drill borewells and different rates had been fixed for beneficiaries of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes. While the rate for each borewell drilling had been fixed at ₹84,000 for SC and ST beneficiaries, it was ₹1.24 lakh for OBCs, he said.

Congress ire

Earlier, Minister for Backward Classes Kota Srinivas Poojari said henceforth money would be transferred to the beneficiaries' bank accounts for drilling borewells. Dissatisfied with the reply, Congress members rushed to the well of the House seeking proper clarification from the Minister. Mr. Bommai said he would order a probe into the allegations. He did not mention the agency which would conduct the probe.

Bill tabled to insulate rural areas from stringent clauses of land-grab Act

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government on Wednesday introduced the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition (Amendment) Bill, 2022, in the Legislative Assembly to avoid criminal proceedings against farmers who have encroached government land in rural areas.

The Bill excludes all the places from the purview of the Karnataka Land Grabbing Prohibition Act, 2011, except areas within the limits of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike and the city corporations.

Coming at a time when the encroachment of government land is an issue in Bengaluru and beyond as well, a law that keeps rural areas out of the stringent clauses dealing with encroachment of government land has faced criticism.

The government, however, has argued that it is not right to treat farmers as land-grabbers if they have encroached upon government land during their agricultural operations and the law is aimed at helping them.

Karnataka will have 35,000 e-buses by 2030: Sriramulu

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka will have 35,000 electric buses by 2030, Transport Minister B. Sriramulu told the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday.

An electric bus of Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation. • FILE PHOTO

In reply to a question by Congress member Tanveer Sait, who wanted details on e-buses in Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), the Minister said diesel prices had been increasing every day and the government was incurring losses. "We want all our buses to become electric by 2030 so that we start making profits," he said.

90 so far

Mr. Sriramulu said diesel buses incur a cost of ₹68.53 per km. At present, 90 electric buses have been pressed into service in Bengaluru on a 12-year contract under the Smart Cities project. The cost per km for these buses is ₹64.67. Under the Union government's Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric vehicles (FAME)-II, Mr. Sriramulu said the BMTC had been given 75 electric buses out of 300. These buses incur a cost of ₹61.90 per km.

An order has been placed for 921 electric buses through Convergence Energy Services Ltd. (CESL). These buses will incur ₹54 per km, the Minister said.

'Residents of undocumented settlements will get title deeds in two months'

3,218 such settlements identified; preliminary notification issued to convert 2,091 inhabited areas into villages

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka will take up a campaign to issue title deeds to at least 50,000 dwellers of undocumented settlement areas, including Lambani tandas, Revenue Minister R. Ashok informed the Legislative Council on Wednesday.

Minister of Revenue R. Ashok speaking in the Legislative Assembly on Wednesday.

In two months

Replying to BJP member Shashil G. Namoshi during the question hour, the Minister said although scores of people have been residing in tandas, hadis, and gollarahattis for many years they have no land records. "Due to this, they are deprived of government facilities. We have planned to distribute title deeds to at least 50,000 people in the next two months on a mission mode. After issuing the title deed, officials have been directed to take up registration of all the documents in the office of the respective Sub-Registrar every day for one hour," he said.

Pointing out that 3,218 undocumented settlements had been identified in the State, the Minister said preliminary notification had been issued to convert 2,091 inhabited areas into villages. While the final notification had been issued for 1,166 villages, preliminary notification of 923 villages had been proposed, he said.

Quasi-judicial cases

Several measures have been initiated to expeditiously hear quasi-judicial appeals related to the Revenue Department and reduce the burden of pending cases. Apart from fixing a time limit for disposal of cases, Deputy Commissioners along with Additional Deputy Commissioners, sub-divisional officers, and tahsildars have been empowered to hear cases, Mr. Ashok said.

Replying to JD(S) member C.N. Manje Gowda, the Minister said tahsildars had been instructed to settle land mutation (transfer or change of title in the records of the local municipal body), khata and RTC transfer applications through Bhoomi software within 60 days and within three months for disputed cases.

"Similarly, cases at the level of sub-divisional officers and Deputy Commissioners should be settled within six months. While the Deputy Commissioners have been instructed to resolve 75 cases a month, sub-divisional officers and tahsildars have been directed to settle 100 cases. Additional Deputy Commissioners have also been empowered to settle cases," the Minister said.

To be empowered

He added that tahsildars would soon be empowered to correct minor mistakes in land documents. As of now, people are forced to make frequent visits to revenue offices to get the mistakes corrected, he said.

Anti-conversion Bill to be tabled in this session

Ordinance was promulgated in May

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Cabinet is learnt to have decided to table the anti-conversion Bill in the Legislative Council during the ongoing session.

According to sources, the Cabinet that met on Wednesday decided to bring the Bill in both the Houses of the State legislature to replace the Ordinance that is in force.

It may be noted that the Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Bill that prohibits forced religious conversions had been adopted by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly in December 2021. However, the Bill was yet to be brought before the Legislative Council where the ruling BJP lacked majority then.

Meanwhile, the government had taken the Ordinance route to give effect to such a legislation in May this year.

The Cabinet is also learnt to have cleared the tabling of the Karnataka Lokayukta (Amendment) Bill that seeks to increase the salary of the Lokayukta and the Upalokayukta and also appoint one more registrar to the anti-corruption body to handle the increasing number of cases.

According to sources, the Cabinet also gave the green signal for holding the election to the post of the Legislative Council Chairman next week.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE
DEATH ANNIVERSARIES
BIRTH / DEATH
THE ANGEL MY SWEET HEART
16-09-1947 (TUE) 15-09-2006 (FRI)

Smt. L.BALAM (LAKSHMI)
(W/o. K.Lakshmanan, Retd. Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd.)
We miss you every moment
That smile, that kindness
and your unconditional love
for all,
Not a single moment passes
by without thinking of you.
MAY HER SOUL CONTINUE
TO REST IN PEACE
Fondly Remembered by:
Husband, Daughters, Sons-in-law & Grand Children

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2022 (OJEE-2022)
PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING
OJEE WEB COUNSELLING FOR 2022-23

No: OJEE / 414 Date: 10.09.2022

This is for the information of all concerned that OJEE Web-Based Counselling Process for Technical Undergraduate Courses such as **B.Tech, B.Arch, B.Plan, B.CAT and Integrated M.Sc.** is going to start from **13th September, 2022 .**

Similarly, the counselling process for Technical /Professional Postgraduate courses like **MBA, MCA, M.Tech, M.Arch, and M.Plan** will commence from **12th September, 2022.**

Interested candidates are advised to visit OJEE websites **(www.ojee.nic.in / www.odishajee.com)** and see the **Tentative Counselling Schedule** for these courses.

They are further advised to carefully go through the documents, **"Counselling Brochure" and "Step-by-Step Procedure"**, available in the website to get detailed information about the entire counselling process.

Sd/-
Chairman, OJEE
ODISHA

h-09 : OIPR-14020/11/0016/2223

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD.
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Sl.No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	SE/R&D	02	1

For details of works / Procurement / Due date of submission / opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit website, www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR/4128/Tender/2022

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Office of the EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION DHARWAD
SECTION 1: INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT) (One Cover & Two Cover System), KW-2, 3 & 4
Reg : This office tender Notification No. 24/2022-23 Dt:13.09.2022

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Division, Dharwad, invites tenders for total of **24** Works for **Hangal** Sub Divisions, comes under this undersigned office in Standard Bid Document **KW-2,3&4** through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka, viz., **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from eligible contractors for the work under Head of Account: **4702-APB (Total of 02 works); 4702-MOT (Total of 18 works); 4711-Flood Control (Total of 02 works); 4702-LIS (Total of 02 work);** Maximum Estimate Amount: Rs.**600.00** Lakhs, Maximum E.M.D amount Rs.**9.00** Lakhs and Minimum Estimate Amount: Rs.**50.00** Minimum E.M.D amount Rs.**1.00** Lakhs Period of downloading tender documents from e-procurement portal is from **19/09/2022** to **06/10/2022** upto17:30hrs. And any other Corrigendum/Addendum and Postponement of Notification, if any will be published only through **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Other details may be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days. Details published on the e-procurement website @ **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** are final.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/HVR/MC&A/257/2022-23 M.I. & G.W. D. Division, Dharwad

(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Chikkaballapura Division, Chikkaballapura.
Invitation for Short-Term Tender (I.F.T.)
No.: 14/2022-23 Date: 07.09.2022
(For Road Works – As per Standard Bidding Document K.W. –4 in Two Cover system)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000, the Undersigned invites Tenders in two cover system through e-procurement portal from eligible Contractors registered in PWD. Those interested in participating in the tender can submit the tenders **from 12.09.2022 to 21.09.2022 up to 4.00 pm.**

(1) Last date for objections-doubts and clarifications: **16.09.2022 (at 3.00 pm during office hours)**. (2) Last date for submission of filled tenders: **21.09.2022 (up to 4.00 pm).** (3) Date of opening Technical Bid: **23.09.2022 at 11.00 am.** (4) Financial Bid will be opened after the approval of Technical Bid. For more information visit website **www.kpwd.gov.in** or contact this office during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Chikkaballapura Division, Chikkaballapura.
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ಆರ್.ಓ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 258 /ಮ.ಸ.ಅ/2022–23

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Bajrang Dal activists stop inter-faith marriage

Incident occurred in Chikkamagaluru

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HASSAN

A group of Bajrang Dal activists on Wednesday allegedly stopped the marriage of a Hindu girl to a Muslim boy at Chikkamagaluru, terming it a case of 'Love Jihad'. Based on a complaint filed by the Muslim boy, the Basavanahalli police have registered a case against four persons.

The boy and girl, both residents of Lakshmipuram in Chikkmagaluru taluk, were in love and they had planned to get married at the sub-registrar's office in Chikkamagaluru.

To the police

A group of Bajrang Dal activists, who got information about the marriage, intervened and stopped the marriage. They took the boy and the girl to the police.

Uma Prashanth, Superintendent of Police, Chikkamagaluru, told presspersons that a case had been registered based on the complaint filed by the boy. "The boy has alleged that the accused assaulted him and stopped the marriage. We are taking their statements for further investigation," she said.

The Superintendent of Police said both the girl and boy were major.

'Not opposed to it'

Meanwhile, the girl's mother, Shobha, told the media that she was not opposed to her daughter's marriage with the Muslim boy. She would wish them good.

Home Ministry to meet A.P., Telangana officials on Sept. 27

Unresolved issues between the two States will be discussed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Funding for the new capital of A.P. is among the 14 issues to be discussed during the meet on September 27. • FILE PHOTO

The Home Ministry has convened a crucial meeting of officials of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and Ministries of Central government concerned at its North Block office in New Delhi on September 27 to discuss unresolved issues between the two States as per Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act.

The Home Ministry has sent the agenda for the meeting with 14 issues to the Chief Secretaries of the two State governments and Secretaries of Finance, Food, Education, Agriculture, Petroleum and Health Ministries beside Railway Board chairman and Ministries by the Home department. The agenda of the meeting was divided between discussing bilateral and other issues, it was said.

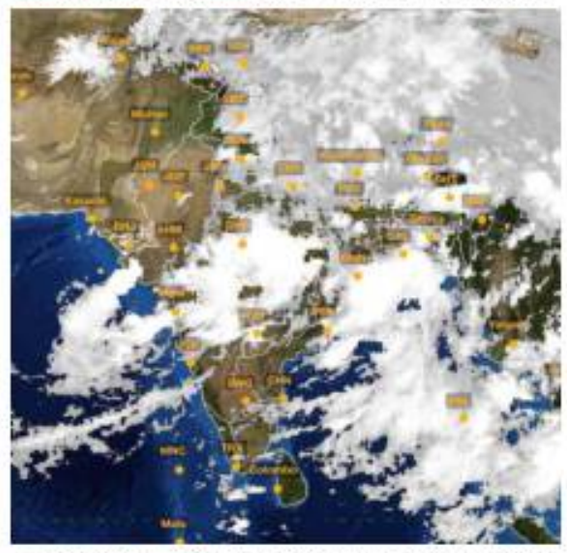
In the bilateral category, the meeting will discuss division of institutions in the erstwhile State. Funding for Andhra Pradesh capital and establishment of institutions of higher learning in the State will form the other group.

The note said the meeting will also discuss funding for the new capital of Andhra Pradesh but there was no mention of three capitals proposed by the State government.

Bilateral issues included division of companies and corporations in Schedule Nine and institutions mentioned in Schedule Ten of the Reorganisation Act. The division of institutions not mentioned in the Act, Andhra Pradesh State Finance Corporation, Singareni Collieries Company Limited and Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery Engineering Limited will be discussed. The bank balances of erstwhile government, Centrally sponsored schemes, expenditure on combined institutions and foreign funds on projects taken up in erstwhile State will also be discussed.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra and Konkan & Goa. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Delhi, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	16	26.8	24.6	Kozhikode	20	31.5	25.0
Ahmedabad	–	32.4	25.8	Kurnool	–	32.6	23.5
Aizawl	–	–	19.8	Lucknow	9	26.7	24.8
Allahabad	–	32.2	25.3	Madurai	–	36.8	24.6
Bengaluru	3	27.8	20.0	Mangaluru	14.8	29.1	23.4
Bhopal	37	–	23.2	Mumbai	22	30.1	24.9
Bhubaneswar	0.7	31.8	25.2	Mysuru	–	29.0	20.4
Chandigarh	–	33.8	26.6	New Delhi	–	33.6	26.4
Chennai	–	34.8	27.4	Patna	18	28.3	25.1
Coimbatore	–	32.4	22.6	Port Blair	–	30.4	25.6
Dehradun	0.9	30.2	23.2	Puducherry	–	34.0	25.2
Gangtok	29	18.2	17.1	Pune	12.8	26.3	20.7
Goa	1	30.5	23.5	Raipur	0.9	32.8	24.3
Guwahati	17	33.9	25.2	Ranchi	5	27.0	23.2
Hubballi	–	28.0	21.0	Shillong	12	23.1	16.4
Hyderabad	–	29.6	21.6	Shimla	0.2	20.4	15.9
Imphal	–	30.2	20.0	Srinagar	–	30.1	14.0
Jaipur	0.8	31.4	25.6	Thiruvananthapuram	0.8	31.4	24.2
Kochi	2	30.2	25.0	Tiruchi	2	36.5	25.4
Kohima	81	22.8	16.0	Vijayawada	–	31.0	26.2
Kolkata	0.7	29.0	25.9	Visakhapatnam	3	28.5	26.5

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	76	53	.38	32	53	
Bengaluru	7	24	.42	31	101	
Chennai	2	–	109	110	83	
Delhi	9	53	.45	56	106	
Hyderabad	8	2	121	28	33	
Kolkata	10	14	.21	34	52	
Lucknow	24	34	.78	18	23	
Mumbai	–	20	101	17	19	
Pune	–	–	–	–	–	
Visakhapatnam	19	52	.70	56	92	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Yamunanagar, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 196 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 18

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

KPCC meet today to elect new president

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

An estimated 310 Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) general body members will meet on Thursday to set in motion an organisational process that will select the new State office-bearers, notably the party's next State president. If there are no surprise upsets, the meeting will, in all probability, endorse the incumbent K. Sudhakaran as KPCC president. The KPCC has asked the members to report at the party's State headquarters at Indira Bhavan.

By some accounts, the KPCC will send its endorsements to the All India Congress Committee and entrust Congress president Sonia Gandhi to take a final call.

Balloting and an immediate formal announcement of the office-bearers are doubtful.

Dasara elephant Lakshmi gives birth on Mysuru palace premises

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

In what is described as a 'Dasara gift' ahead of the festivities in Mysuru, Lakshmi, a 21-year-old Dasara elephant, gave birth to a male calf on the palace premises on Tuesday night. The mother and the newborn have been separated from the Dasara jumbo camp. Veterinarians are monitoring their health.

"Lakshmi and the newborn calf are healthy and doing well," said a Forest Department official.

It is perhaps for the first time in recent years that a Dasara elephant has given birth on the palace premises while on a training for the Jamboo Savari procession. Normally, pregnant jumbos are not selected for Dasara tasks.

Lakshmi, who belongs to the Ramapura elephant camp in Bandipur, was brought to Mysuru in August as part of 'Gajapayana', along with eight other elephants. The Dasara jumbo squad comprises 14 elephants.

"The mahouts and old-timers in the department are saying that an elephant giving birth while in Mysuru for Dasara tasks is uncommon, at least in the last two-and-a-half decades. About 25 years ago, a Dasara elephant is said to have given birth, but this is yet to be confirmed," said Deputy Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) V. Karikalan.

Mr. Karikalan, who is in charge of Dasara elephants, told *The Hindu* that none, including the mahout, were aware that Lakshmi was expecting. "On Tuesday morning, we separated her from the jumbo camp on learning that she was in an advanced stage of pregnancy because of her unusual behaviour. We had to monitor her health. Around 8.15 p.m., she comfortably delivered the baby," he said.

Elephants have a long gestation period ranging from 18 to 22 months. As a result, it is difficult to detect pregnancy in an elephant.

Lakshmi has now been ruled out for the Dasara festivities, but the department is not considering a replacement as the jumbo squad has three other female elephants – Chaitra and Kaveri (Kumki elephants), and Vijaya.

SRI JAYADEVA INSTITUTE OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES & RESEARCH
(Govt. of Karnataka - Reg. Autonomous Institute)
Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560 069.
Ph.: +91-80-22977666/276/216/217/433 TELE FAX:080-26534625/477
e-mail: director@jayadevacardiology.com/sjicrprojectengineer@gmail.com

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru invites tender for the following items in two bid system from eligible tenderers through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka:

Sl. No.	Tender Notification No. & Date	Particulars
1	SJICR/TS/55/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Providing Canteen & dietary services at SJICR's branch at 3rd floor, GIMS Hospital building, Kalaburagi
2	SJICR/TS/56/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Supply of Medical Gases to SJICR, Kalaburagi
3	SJICR/TS/57/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Keeping 5 part Differential Hematology Analyzer on cost per test basis for SJICR, Bengaluru.
4	SJICR/TS/58/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Keeping Gel/column system for blood grouping and cross matching on cost per test basis.
5	SJICR/TS/59/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Keeping HbA1c system (Hemoglobin testing system) on cost per test basis.
6	SJICR/TS/60/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Supply of Semi Automated Urine Analyzer on cost per reagent strip basis to Biochemistry Laboratory at SJICR, K.R.S. Road, Mysuru
7	SJICR/TS/61/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation & maintenance of Medical gas equipment pipelines for internal supply of medical gases & other allied works at SJICR, Bengaluru
8	SJICR/TS/62/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation & maintenance of Medical gas equipment pipelines for internal supply of medical gases & other allied works at SJICR, Kalaburagi
9	SJICR/TS/63/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation & maintenance of Medical gas equipment pipelines for internal supply of medical gases & other allied works at SJICR, Mysuru
10	SJICR/TS/64/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation and maintenance of Medical gas Equipment and pipeline system, HVAC System, Electrical and plumbing services at SJICR Satellite centre K.G. General Hospital Premises, Malleswaram, Bengaluru
11	SJICR/TS/65/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation & maintenance of STP & ETP, MBR System and 500 KLD capacity at SJICR, Bengaluru.
12	SJICR/TS/66/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation & Maintenance of Boiler Equipment & allied works at SJICR, Bengaluru
13	SJICR/TS/67/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	AMC for Washer cum extractor & Tumble drier at SJICR, Bengaluru Model: HS 9033/HS 9255 - 2 Nos. each
14	SJICR/TS/68/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation & maintenance and CAMC of HVAC system installed at SJICR, BG Road, Bengaluru.
15	SJICR/TS/69/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation & Maintenance and CAMC of HVAC system installed at SJICR, KRS road, Mysuru
16	SJICR/TS/70/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Maintenance of Garden at SJICR, BG road, Bengaluru.
17	SJICR/TS/71/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Operation and maintenance of Fire alarm system installed at SJICR, Bengaluru.
18	SJICR/TS/72/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Annual Maintenance contract of Laundry equipment installed at SJICR, Kalaburagi
19	SJICR/TS/73/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Annual maintenance contract of Water treatment and RO plant including replacement of necessary consumables, installed at SJICR's branch at KRS road, Mysuru.
20	SJICR/TS/74/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Annual Maintenance contract of Siemens make open scape communication 4000 server installed at SJICR's branch at Mysuru.
21	SJICR/TS/75/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Annual Maintenance contract of IT & Networking system and CCTV Surveillance & access control installed at SJICR, KRS road, Mysuru.
22	SJICR/TS/76/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Annual Maintenance contract for maintenance of DG sets installed at following places a) 500 KVA-1 No. at SJICR, Bengaluru b) 500 KVA-1 No. at SJICR Kalaburagi 750 KVA-2 Nos at SJICR, Mysuru.
23	SJICR/TS/77/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Providing 'B' check servicing kit to a) 1500 KVA-3 Nos. & 500 KVA– 1 No. for SJICR, Bengaluru. b) 500 KVA-1 No. for SJICR, Kalaburagi 750 KVA-2 Nos for SJICR, Mysuru.
24	SJICR/TS/78/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract for Solar Clocks – 4 Nos. installed at Tower Clock area of SJICR, Mysuru.
25	SJICR/TS/79/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance contract of Auto Intelligent for Micro controlled self setting serial data transfer clock having Lithium battery for data storage at Main Entrance of SJICR, Bengaluru -2 Nos.
26	SJICR/TS/80/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Supply of other essential items on Rate Contract basis.
27	SJICR/TS/81/2022-23 Dt. 14.09.2022	Annual Maintenance contract for medical & general equipment

1. The tenderers can download the documents from **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from **19.09.2022** and the last date for submission of completed tenders through e-portal is **18.10.2022 up to 4:00 PM.**
2. Date of Pre-bid meeting: **01.10.2022 at 11:30 AM.**
3. Date of Technical Bid opening: **19.10.2022 at 4:00 PM.**
4. EMD: as mentioned in the tender document
5. For further details for, please visit our website: **www.jayadevacardiology.com**
6. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept/reject/cancel the tender partially or fully without assigning any reason at any stage of processing.

Sd/-
Chief Administrative Officer.

DEFENCE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY
(Deemed to be University U/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956),
Girinagar, Pune - 411 025.

ADVT. No. 08-NTS-2022 **Date : 13th Sept. 2022**

RECRUITMENT OF NON TEACHING STAFF POSITIONS AT DIAT, PUNE

DIAT, Pune invites applications from eligible Indian Nationals for filling up under mentioned posts of Non-Teaching Staff cadre on direct recruitment basis. Candidates are required to apply as per instructions contained in this advertisement. Detailed advertisement & application form can be downloaded from Institute website **www.diat.ac.in** on link **'Careers@DIAT'**.

Name of Post	No. of Vacancies & Reservation	Upper Age Limit	Salary as per 7th CPC Pay Matrix	Remarks
Laboratory Officer	01(UR)	35 Years	Pay level-7	For Qualifications and other details, please visit careers column of DIAT website **www.diat.ac.in.** Last date for receipt of completed application is **31/10/2022**
Superintendent	01(UR)	35 Years	Pay level-7	
Executive Assistant	01(UR)	30 Years	Pay level-6	
Senior Laboratory Assistant	05 (04-UR, 01-OBC)	30 Years	Pay level-5	
Laboratory Assistant	02 (01-PWD, 01-EWS)	28 Years	Pay level-4	
Assistant	03 (01-ESM, 01-EWS, 01-OBC)	28 Years	Pay level-4	

Abbreviations: UR=Unreserved, ESM=Ex Servicemen, PWD=Persons with Disability, OBC=Other Backward class, EWS=Economically Weaker Section

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are hereby notified that our client, Sri. Sharan Kumar C.M S/o Sri. Muniraju has lost original Hakku Patra pertaining to the Property Bearing No. 99/99, Khatha No.99, situated at Bileshivale Village (Hanumanth nagar), Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, now comes under the limits of BBMP Ward No. 54, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, in all measuring 1200 square feet and bounded on the East by : House belongs to Kaverappa, West by: House belongs to Maheshappa, North by : House belongs to Rathnamma and Sheenappa and South by : Road along with the residential building standing thereon. In this regard a Police Complaint dated 14.09.2022 has been filed/lodged by our client with Karnataka State Police in Lost Report No. 321140/2022. If any person/s finds the said document kindly inform the advocate stated herein. If any person/s misuses the said document, the same is not binding on our clients and they shall do so at their own risk.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-560 043. Contact : 9845846428

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby notified that our client Smt.P.J.Sharada is the absolute owner of the schedule property described infra.

The original Sale deed dated 15.01.1993, registered as document No.4820/1992-93, in Book – I, Volume No.319 at Pages 187-189, at the office of the Sub-Registrar, Yelahanka, Bangalore is lost/misplaced. In this connection, a police complaint has been lodged on 09.09.2022 at Police Station, Amruthalli, Bangalore.

Any person finds the document may handover the same to the undersigned within 11 days from this day. If the said document is misused by anybody, it shall not be binding on our client and they shall be doing so at their own costs and risks.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing No.33, Kaneshumari No.101/4/33, Katha No.950/101/4/33, situated at Amruthahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, within the revenue limits of BBMP, Bangalore, admeasuring East to West: 60 Feet and North to South: 40 Feet and the same is bounded as follows, on the

East by : Private Property
West by : Road
North by : Site No.34, presently belongs to Smt. M.Narasamma
South by : Private Property

M/s. MA & CO,
Advocates & Legal Consultants,
No.2934/B, 1st Floor, "D" Block,
II Stage Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560010.
Ph-8095521852,8362653681,
Bangalore Date: 14-09-2022

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
STATE HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROJECT OFFICER, Project Implementation Unit,
State Highway Development Project, PWD Annexe building, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru – 560 001
Website: www.shdpkar.in Email: cepiushdp@gmail.com

No:CPO/SHDP/Phase-4 (Stage-2)/PMC/Re-Tender Notification/2022-23/2146 Date: 14.09.2022

TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY (PMC) SERVICES FOR THE WORKS TAKEN UP UNDER SHDP- Phase 4 (Stage-2)

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 04/2022-23 DATED : 14.09.2022

The Chief Engineer, Project Implementation Unit, State Highway Development Project, Bengaluru on behalf of Governor of Karnataka invites tender for Providing Project Management Consultancy (PMC) Services for the Udupi District (Call-3), Tumkur District (Call-2) & Chikkaballapura District (Call-2) taken up under SHDP- phase 4 (stage-2) i.e Improvements to various selected State Highways & Major district roads spread across the state approved vide G.O No.: PWD E-188 EAP 2020 Bengaluru, Dated: 03.01.2022 and PWD E-20 EAP 2022, Dated: 13.01.2022 under SHDP Phase 4 (Stage-2), as per standard bidding document (KC-4) and SHDP norms.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Districtswise Packages details may be obtained through E-Proc Portal	Package wise amount put to Tender may be obtained through E-Proc Portal	Package wise EMD details may be obtained through E-Proc Portal

Tender process details: (1) Tender documents can be downloaded in E-Proc portal from **14.09.2022 to 22.09.2022 upto 15.30 hours. (2)** Pre bid meeting on **20.09.2022 at 11.30 hours** (O/o Chief Project Officer, SHDP, Bangalore). **(3)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders **22.09.2022 Upto 16.30 hours. (4)** Date & Time for opening of technical bid **26.09.2022 at 11.30 hours. (5)** Tentative date & time for opening of financial bid **30.09.2022 at 11.30 hours. (6)** Corrigendums, addendums and modifications in notification if any will be published in e-procurement portal only.

Note: Registered Consultancy firms in E-procurement are eligible to participate in tender. Any information about the tendered can be obtained from O/o The Chief Projet Officer, Project Implementation Unit, State Highway Development Project, Bangaluru during office hours on all working days and also through **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. and SHDP website: www.shdpkar.in E-procurement portal helpdesk Telephone Nos: 080-23010900 & 080-38013000.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
PIU-SHDP, K.R. Circle, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/Advt/2204/2022-23

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NAGAR PARISHAD, CHAIBASA
West Singhbhm (Jharkhand)

Request For Proposal for selection of Agencies for bio-remediation & Bio-mining of legacy waste sites utilizing various methodologies/technologies.

NIT
Request for Proposal
Tender Reference No.- CNP/109/2022-22

1	Name of Work	Bio-remediation & Bio-mining of legacy waste sites utilizing various methodologies/technologies under Nagar Parishad, Chaibasa
2	Estimated Project Cost and duration	9,00,84,700.00 Nine Month
3	Date of starting of sale of tender Document (Published on website Jharkhandtenders.gov.in)	21/09/2022 17:00 Hrs
4	Pre-bid meeting date, Time & Place	Online
5	Date of start of submission of bids	23/09/2022 11:30 Hrs
6	Last date for submission of bids (Online)	05/10/2022 21:00 Hrs
7	Last date for submission of bids (Hard copy)	06/10/2022 12:30 Hrs
8	Technical bid opening date	07/10/2022 11:30 Hrs
9	Financial bids Opening Date	Will be Informed on portal
10	Cost of Bidding Document (Tender Fee)	Cost of Tender document : 10,000/- (Non Refundable) to be paid through Demand Draft(DD) Payable in favor of "Executive Officer, Nagar Parishad, Chaibasa" Payable at Chaibasa
11	Earnest money deposit (EMD)	Rs. 2,000.00.00 (Two lakh only) (Refundable) in the form of Demand Draft) in favor of "Executive Officer, Nagar Parishad, Chaibasa" Payable at Chaibasa
12	Name & Address of Office Inviting tender	Office of the Executive Officer, Nagar Parishad, Chaibasa
13	Contract no. of Procurement officer	8797629742
14	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	npchaibasa@gmail.com

- Chaibasa Nagar Parishad, CHIBASA reserves the right to cancel the NIT as whole or in part without assigning any reason whatsoever.
- Tender document shall be available on website *http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in*

PR.NO.277721 West Singhbhum(22-23):D

Executive Officer.
Nagar Parishad, Chaibasa

Engage with caution

The latest disengagement along the LAC is a welcome step, but the border crisis is not over

India and China on September 13 confirmed the disengagement of their troops from a fifth friction point in Eastern Ladakh along the LAC. With the latest withdrawal of troops from Patrolling Point (PP) 15 in the Gogra-Hot Springs area, buffer zones have now been established by the two sides in five locations, including in Galwan Valley, north and south of Pangong Lake, and at PP17A in Gogra. The arrangements in the four earlier established buffer zones have so far helped keep the peace over the past two years. No patrolling is to be undertaken by either side in the buffer zones, which have been established on territory claimed by both India and China. The latest disengagement came just three days before Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping are to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Uzbekistan.

Reflecting the current state of relations, the two leaders have not directly spoken in more than two-and-a-half-years, an extraordinary situation for the world's two most populous countries. Whether they meet at the SCO Summit – as of September 14, neither side had confirmed or ruled out a meeting – or at the G20 in Indonesia later this year, India will need to proceed with caution as it inevitably resumes high-level engagement with China. While the buffer zones may serve as a temporary measure to prevent a recurrence of clashes, the reality is that this is an arrangement that has been forced on India. The Indian military, by holding the line and showing its capacity to match China's deployments, has been able to reverse China's multiple territorial ingresses of April 2020 in the five areas. That has, however, come at the cost of India's ability to access patrolling points that it was reaching previously, which, in the view of some military observers, might have been China's game-plan all along, given the favourable logistics and terrain on the Chinese side that enable faster deployments. Moreover, China has neither agreed to resolve stand-offs in Demchok and Depsang, suggesting they pre-dated the current tensions, nor shown any intent to de-escalate, instead continuing to build forward infrastructure aimed at permanently housing a large number of troops closer to the LAC. Indeed, signs are that both sides are in for a prolonged period of uncertainty on the borders thanks to China's decision to mobilise tens of thousands of troops in April 2020, in contravention of past border agreements. Unless Beijing reverses its recent, and still unexplained, moves to militarise the LAC and in the process undo the carefully constructed arrangements that helped keep the peace for 40 years, India will have little incentive to consider a return to relations as they were prior to 2020. The latest disengagement, while certainly a welcome step, by no means implies an end to the crisis on the border.

Tax on the poor

Inflation disproportionately affects the economically weaker sections

The latest retail inflation data from the National Statistical Office is a sobering reminder that accelerating price gains still remain the single biggest challenge to policymakers as they try to steer Asia's third-largest economy to a more durable recovery from the pandemic-induced slump. Inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) quickened in August to a provisional 7%, from 6.7% in July, as the pace of gains in food prices as measured by the Consumer Food Price Index accelerated by a sizeable 93 basis points to 7.62%, from July's 6.69%. And rural consumers bore a disproportionately higher burden: with month-on-month changes in both food prices and overall inflation appreciably greater at 0.88% and 0.57% respectively, compared with the 0.50% and 0.46% rates of urban inflation. Of particular concern is that inflation in the prices of cereals – staple grains in every household – surged to 9.57% from the preceding month's 6.9% rate. Month-on-month the pace was a disconcerting 2.4%. With *kharif* sowing of rice this year undershooting last year's acreage and uneven distribution of rainfall further roiling the crop's production picture, the outlook for inflation in this 'heavyweight' food category remains far from reassuring, the Centre's recent imposition of tariff and other curbs on export of non-Basmati rice notwithstanding. In fact, eight of the 12 food items that combine to constitute the food and beverages category of the CPI saw sequential price upticks, with vegetables (13.2% year-on-year and 2.5% month-on-month) and dairy (6.39% and 0.9%, respectively) being two other vital foods that contributed to the faster inflation.

The Finance Ministry was quick to assert that the increase in headline inflation was "moderate", even as it sought to downplay the significance of food price pressures by terming food and fuel prices as "transient components". It also pointed to the steps by the Government to cool prices, that could help tame inflation in the 'coming weeks'. And it cited oils and fats and pulses as two items where prices had begun to ease in response to the Centre's steps. However, the prices of pulses and products quickened by 1.7% month-on-month, with the pace trailing only that of sequential inflation in spices, cereals and vegetables. Services categories including housing, health, education, recreation and personal care too witnessed sequential increases in price gains as these services saw demand gradually revive. The challenge going forward would be for providers to tread carefully so as not to yet again depress consumption by raising prices too quickly. Policymakers would do well to heed the dictum of a former RBI Governor, who never tired of reiterating that 'containing the build up of price pressures is the best anti-poverty programme' as the poor 'have no hedge against inflation'.

The future of old times in India

Near-universal social security pensions would be a good start to a radical expansion of public support for the elderly

JEAN DRÈZE & ESTHER DUFLO

Life expectancy in India has more than doubled since Independence – from around 32 years in the late 1940s to 70 years or so today. Many countries have done even better, but this is still a historical achievement. Over the same period, the fertility rate has crashed from about six children per woman to just two, liberating women from the shackles of repeated child-bearing and child care. All this is good news, but it also creates a new challenge – the ageing of the population.

The share of the elderly (persons aged 60 years and above) in India's population, close to 9% in 2011, is growing fast and may reach 18% by 2036 according to the National Commission on Population. If India is to ensure a decent quality of life for the elderly in the near future, planning and providing for it must begin today.

Pensions help

Recent work on mental health among the elderly in India sheds new light on their dire predicament. Evidence on depression from a collaborative survey of the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) and the Government of Tamil Nadu is particularly telling. Among persons aged 60 and above, 30% to 50% (depending on gender and age group) had symptoms that make them likely to be depressed. The proportion with depression symptoms is much higher for women than men, and rises sharply with age. In most cases, depression remains undiagnosed and untreated.

As one might expect, depression is strongly correlated with poverty and poor health, but also with loneliness. Among the elderly living alone, in the Tamil Nadu sample, 74% had symptoms that would classify them as likely to be mildly depressed or worse on the short-form Geriatric Depression Scale. A large majority of elderly persons living alone are women, mainly widows.

The hardships of old age are not related to poverty alone, but some cash often helps. Cash can certainly help to cope with many health issues, and sometimes to avoid loneliness as well. The first step towards a dignified life for the elderly is to protect them from destitution and all the deprivations that may come with it. That is why old-age pensions are a vital part of social security systems around the world.

India has important schemes of non-contributory pensions for the elderly, widowed women and disabled persons under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), administered by the Ministry of Rural Development. Alas, eligibility for NSAP is restricted to "below poverty line" (BPL) families, based on outdated and unreliable BPL lists, some of them are 20 years old. Further, the central contribution to old-age pensions under NSAP has stagnated at a tiny ₹200 per month since 2006, with a slightly higher but still paltry amount (₹300 per month) for widows.

Many States have enhanced the coverage and/or amount of social-security pensions beyond NSAP norms using their own funds and schemes. Some have even achieved "near-universal" (say 75%-80%) coverage of widows and elderly persons. That is now the norm, for instance, in all the southern States except Tamil Nadu – an odd exception since Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in the field of social security.

GETTY IMAGES

Beyond targets

"Targeting" social benefits is always difficult. Restricting them to BPL families has not worked well: there are huge exclusion errors in the BPL lists. When it comes to old-age pensions, targeting is not a good idea in any case. For one thing, targeting tends to be based on household rather than individual indicators. A widow or elderly person, however, may experience major deprivations even in a relatively well-off household. A pension can help them to avoid extreme dependence on relatives who may or may not take good care of them, and it may even lead relatives to be more considerate.

For another, targeting tends to involve complicated formalities such as the submission of BPL certificates and other documents. That has certainly been the experience with NSAP pensions. The formalities can be particularly forbidding for elderly persons with low incomes or little education, who are in greatest need of a pension. In the Tamil Nadu sample, eligible persons who had been left out of pension schemes were found to be much poorer than the pension recipients (by more than just the pension). Moreover, even when lists of left-out, likely-eligible persons were submitted to the local administration, very few were approved for a pension, confirming that they face resilient barriers in the current scheme of things.

The problem is generally not a lack of effort or goodwill on the part of the government officials. Rather, many have absorbed the idea that their job is to save the government money by making sure that no ineligible person qualifies by mistake. In Tamil Nadu this often means, for example, that if the applicant has an able-bodied son in the city, they may be disqualified, regardless of whether they get any support from their son. In their quest to avoid inclusion errors, many officials are less concerned about exclusion errors.

A better approach is to consider all widows and elderly or disabled persons as eligible, subject to simple and transparent "exclusion criteria". Eligibility can even be self-declared, with the burden of time-bound verification being placed on the local administration or gram panchayat. Some cheating may happen, but it is unlikely that many privileged households will risk trouble for the sake of a small monthly pension. And it is much preferable to accommodate some inclusion errors than to perpetuate the massive exclusion errors we are seeing today in targeted pension schemes.

Widening the net

The proposed move from targeted to near-universal pensions is not particularly new. As mentioned earlier, it has already happened in several States. Of course, it requires larger pension budgets, but additional expenditure is easy to justify. India's social assistance schemes have low budgets and make a big difference to large numbers of people (about 40 million under NSAP). They are well worth expanding.

An example may help. In Tamil Nadu, social security pensions (typically ₹1,000 per month) are targeted and cover about a third of all elderly persons and widowed women, at a cost of around ₹4,000 crore per year. If, instead, 20% were to be excluded and the rest eligible by default, the cost would rise to ₹10,000 crore per year. That would be a modest price to pay to ensure a modicum of economic security in old age to everyone. It would be a fraction of the ₹40,000 crore Tamil Nadu is expected to spend this year on pensions and retirement benefits for government employees - barely 1% of the population. If the transition cannot be made in one go, there is a strong case for starting with women (the widowed or the elderly), who often face special disadvantages. This would also be a step towards the fulfilment of the Tamil Nadu government's promise of a "home grant" of ₹1,000 per month for women.

The southern States are relatively well-off, but even some of India's poorer States (such as Odisha and Rajasthan) have near-universal social security pensions. It would be much easier for all States to do the same if the central government were to revamp the NSAP. The NSAP budget this year is just ₹9,652 crore – more or less the same as 10 years ago in money terms, and much lower in real terms. This is not even 0.05% of India's GDP!

Social security pensions, of course, are just the first step towards a dignified life for the elderly. They also need other support and facilities such as health care, disability aids, assistance with daily tasks, recreation opportunities and a good social life. This is a critical area of research, policy and action for the near future.

Jean Drèze is Visiting Professor at the Department of Economics, Ranchi University. Esther Duflo, a Nobel Laureate (2019), is Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

India's growing water crisis, the seen and the unseen

Rural-urban water disputes are very likely to occur as scarcity grows, exacerbated by climate change

SRIKUMAR CHATTOPADHYAY

The UNESCO United Nations World Water Development Report of 2022 has encapsulated global concern over the sharp rise in freshwater withdrawal from streams, lakes, aquifers and human-made reservoirs, impending water stress and also water scarcity being experienced in different parts of the world. In 2007, 'Coping with water scarcity' was the theme of World Water Day (observed on March 22). The new Water Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) sounded a note of caution about this silent crisis of a global dimension, with millions of people being deprived of water to live and to sustain their livelihood.

Growing water stress

Further, the Water Scarcity Clock, an interactive webtool, shows that over two billion people live in countries now experiencing high water stress; the numbers will continue to increase. The Global Drought Risk and Water Stress map (2019) shows that major parts of India, particularly west, central and parts of peninsular India are highly water stressed and experience water scarcity. A NITI Aayog report, 'Composite Water Management Index' (2018) has sounded a note of caution about the worst water crisis in the country, with more than 600 million people facing acute water shortages. The typical response of the areas where water shortage or scarcity is high includes transfer of water from the hinterlands/upper catchments or drawing it from stored surface water bodies or aquifers. This triggers sectoral and regional competition; rural-urban transfer of water is one such issue of global concern.

Increasing trans-boundary transfer of water between rural and urban areas has been noted in many countries since the early 20th century. A review paper published in 2019 reported that, globally, urban water infrastructure imports an estimated 500 billion litres of water per day across a combined distance of 27,000km. At least 12% of large cities in the world rely on inter-basin transfers. A UN report on 'Transboundary Waters Systems - Status and Trend' (2016) linked this issue of water transfer with various Sustainable Development Goals proposed to be achieved during 2015 to 2030. The report identified risks associated with water transfer in three categories of biophysical, socio-economic and governance. South Asia, including India, falls in the category of high biophysical and the highest socio-economic risks.

Urban water use

According to Census 2011, the urban population in India accounted for 34% of total population distributed in 7,935 towns of all classes. It is estimated that the urban population component in India will cross the 40% mark by 2030 and the 50% mark by 2050 (World Urbanization Prospects, 2018). The urban population accounted for 50% of the total world population by the end of the last century. Although the pace of India's urbanisation is relatively slow, it is now urbanising at a rapid pace – the size of the urban population is substantial. Water use in the urban sector has increased as more and more people shift to urban areas, and per capita use of water in these centres rises, which will continue to grow with improved standards of living.

RAJEEV BHATT

Examining the urban water management trajectory, it is evident that in the initial stages when a city is small, it is concerned only with water supply; in a majority of cases, water is sourced locally, with groundwater meeting the bulk of the supply. As the city grows and water management infrastructures develop, dependence shifts to surface water.

With a further growth of cities, water sources shift further up in the hinterlands, or the allocation of urban water is enhanced at the expense of irrigation water. Almost all cities in India that depend on surface water experience this trend. City water supply is now a subject of inter-basin and inter-State transfers of water.

The case of Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad is an interesting case in this context. More than 80% of water supply in this city used to be met from groundwater sources till the mid-1980s. The depth to groundwater level reached 67 metres in confined aquifers. The city now depends on the Narmada canal for the bulk of its water supply. The shift is from local groundwater to canal water receiving supply from an inter-State and inter-basin transfer of surface water.

Dependence on groundwater continues particularly in the peri-urban areas in almost all large cities that have switched to surface water sources. While surface water transfer from rural to urban areas is visible and can be computed, the recharge areas of groundwater aquifers are spread over well beyond the city boundary or its periphery.

Whatever be the source, surface or groundwater, cities largely depend on rural areas for raw water supply, which has the potential to ignite the rural-urban dispute. Available studies covering Nagpur and Chennai indicate the imminent problem of rural-urban water disputes that the country is going to face in the not-so-distant future as water scarcity grows, which will be further exacerbated by climate change.

At present, the rural-urban transfer of water is a lose-lose situation in India as water is transported at the expense of rural areas and the agricultural sector; in cities, most of this water is in the form of grey water with little recovery or reuse, eventually contributing to water pollution. Rural and urban areas use water from the same stock, i.e., the water resources of the country. Therefore, it is important to strive for a win-win situation.

Such a situation is possible through a host of activities in the rural and urban areas, which is primarily a governance challenge. A system perspective and catchment scale-based approach are necessary to link reallocation of water with wider discussions on development, infrastructure investment, fostering an rural-urban partnership and adopting an integrated approach in water management.

Institutional strengthening can offer entry points and provide opportunities to build flexibility into water resource allocation at a regional level, enabling adjustments in rapidly urbanising regions. In India's 75th anniversary of Independence, it is time to examine the state of its water resources and ensure that the development process is not in jeopardy.

Srikumar Chattopadhyay is former Scientist, Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, and Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) National Fellow, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Thiruvananthapuram

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Indian diplomacy

To say that foreign diplomacy is tantamount to a tightrope walk would be to state the obvious, and an understatement, as New Delhi strategically manoeuvres itself between the Global North to Global South to also try and keep its 'non-aligned' spirit intact in pith and substance. A flurry of events such as India distancing itself from the trade' pillar of the United States-led Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF), displaying some military bonhomie with the United States ('Yudh Abhyas'), standing its ground when its comes to the G7 and Russia and also the United Nations, ratcheting up its relationship with 'Bangabandhu', disengagement at the PP15 and robust engagement with the SCO, are all pointers. Is India the ultimate swing state? Only time will tell. But the world is in desperate need of a group of strategic and non-aligned states to ensure and facilitate peace and unity in the world.

NISHAT BHATOTIA,
Manesar, Gurugram, Haryana

Court ruling

The Varanasi district court's order in the Gyanvapi mosque case is fraught with great danger which the Places of Worship Act, 1991 tries to avoid. If such pleas are allowed, contrary to the purpose of the Act, fundamentalists would be encouraged to file similar cases all over the country. It is to avoid such controversy that the 1991 Act clearly fixed August 15, 1947 as the cut-off date to determine the religious character of a place of worship. Now, the court entertaining such a dispute will only contribute to communal disharmony and amounts to repealing the Act and the high constitutional principles for which our Constitution stands. Such decisions should be avoided as they would lead to a fractured society.

N.G.R. PRASAD,
Chennai

■ The narrative of the 'Hindu side' versus 'Muslim side' being played out incessantly in the electronic and social media in the Gyanvapi case is anathema to the pluralistic character of our great nation. There is no gainsaying that any distorted interpretation of the Places of Worship Act, 1991 will open a Pandora's box, causing irreparable loss to our secular fabric. It is shocking that almost all political parties are tight-lipped over the issue despite knowing the serious consequences. It is high time the Supreme Court of India intervened *suo motu*, to stop the distortion of the essence of the Act which was enacted with a good motive.

SYED SULTAN MOHIDDIN,
Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh

Hornbill habitat

As a naturalist and amateur photographer, I found the report, "Calls to identify and protect habitats of Great hornbills in the Nilgiris" (August 18), to be interesting. I have noticed the presence of Great hornbills (*Buceros bicornis*) on the mountain slopes at Aliyar. I have been able to spot them almost every day on the banyan trees (*Ficus benghalensis*); the tree is usually in full fruit between July and August. The only danger I have seen them face is being chased by ravens. After feeding in the morning, the hornbills fly off into the forest and are not seen for the rest of the day. I have also seen Malabar hornbills searching for nesting and roosting spots. Since this area is well protected by the Forest Department, birds can be seen at the edge of the forests, feeding. Villages in the area have to be made aware not to disturb the birds by using crackers during the festival season.

S. LETCHOUMANANE,
Aliyar, Pollachi, Tamil Nadu

Imagining an alternative scenario in Ayodhya

An amicable solution could have been reached through social, rather than judicial, intervention

HARBANS MUKHIA

Workers prepare stones for the construction of a Shri Ram Janmbhoomi temple, at a workshop in Ayodhya. • PTI

In its final judgment on the Ayodhya dispute, delivered on November 9, 2019, the Supreme Court accepted the argument of several historians that no temple, much less a Ram temple, had been demolished to construct the Babri Masjid. It held the demolition of the mosque illegal and sought the prosecution of leaders responsible for it.

A brief history of the dispute

However, it is also a fact that at least since the 19th century, there has been a popular local tradition associating the site with Lord Ram in different ways, and disputes arising from it have led to incidents of violence as well as compromises. On the cold night of December 22-23, 1949, small clay idols of Ram Lalla were stealthily placed inside the mosque with the complicity of the District Magistrate, K.K. Nayyar. These stayed there with the connivance of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, G.B. Pant, a Congress strongman, despite Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's instructions to remove them. The mosque was then locked up for nearly 50 years and there was relative quiet on that front.

Things began heating up in the late 1980s, partly when Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi allowed the opening of the gate of the mosque up to the site in a corner where a Ram *chabutra* (plinth) lay, in order to balance his disastrous handling of the Shah Bano case. Later in the decade, the Bharatiya Janata Party took up the challenge thrown to it by Prime Minister V.P. Singh's sudden announcement of the implementation of Mandal Commission's recommendation of reservation of 27% seats in Central government services and educational institutions for the Other Backward Classes by raking up the Ram Janmabhoomi issue; it picturesquely came to be known as the 'Mandal-Kamandal' contest. The BJP put all its energies into mobilising people for the cause of the Ram temple.

There was no violence on the scene. Several attempts were made to resolve the dispute over the land on which the Babri Masjid stood, without violence. However, by then, the dispute had shed its colour of a political tussle between the BJP and the V.P. Singh government and had become a Hindu-Muslim imbroglio. The Hindu side offered to have the mosque, with its structure and foundation intact, respectfully moved to another site. The shifting of the whole structure was technologically feasible and had been accomplished in Egypt some years earlier when an old monument was similarly moved on rails to a neighbouring site in order to widen the Suez Canal; the shifting could only be done within a short distance of one or two kilometres. But the offer was spurned, for God's site was not open to bargaining.

Things moved fast after that. The Muslim side relied on the historical evidence that favoured them and the impartiality of the judiciary; the Hindu side relied on mass mobilisation through L.K. Advani's Rath Yatra and violence in its wake. The judiciary tried out some sort of compromise with the Allahabad High Court dividing the disputed piece of land between the two sides, if unequally – a solution that pleased neither.

Opening a Pandora's Box

In the end, the Supreme Court determined that no evidence of temple demolition existed. It should logically have restored the site to the Muslims, for this was entirely a property dispute. But by a queer inversion of its own logic, it gave away the site to the Hindus. The judgment has lent huge power to the Hindu side, represented by its various arms – the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the BJP as a party and its various governments, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the Bajrang Dal, etc. – to seek 'justice' in innumerable instances by filing cases about just any mosque having been constructed over the debris of an old temple. It would also have the advantage of seeking the 'righting' of past wrongs through peaceful, judicial means, putting opponents on the defensive for not demonstrating respect for the judiciary.

A Pandora's Box is now wide open. This also consolidates the hold of Hindutva over the body politic for the next several years by placing centre stage the urgency of recovering old temples from the ravages wreaked on them by medieval Muslim rulers, the responsibility for which must be borne by present-day Muslim inhabitants; issues of the economy, education, health, freedoms, etc. can wait. Above all, the history of the dispute and the resort to judicial verdict has turned the two sides into two implacable adversaries in which the emboldened Hindu side finds the solution in more heightened aggression.

Let us now imagine an alternative scenario back in the 1980s. As the dispute grew in dimensions, peaceful solutions were still being sought. What if the Muslim side had firmly articulated the historical veracity of their claim that no temple was demolished to erect the Babri Masjid, but had also taken cognisance of the widespread belief among the Hindus of the Awadh region of the existence of a Ram Janmasthan (the Ram *chabutra*) within the complex and a Sita *rasoi* (kitchen) within a few yards of it and thus, having asserted their property rights over the 2.7 acres, 'offered to donate' it in honour of Ram? Ideally, this could have been done by accepting the proposal to move the mosque within the vicinity of the new grand Ram temple. But even otherwise, this 'donation' had the potential to avert the pitching of the Hindus and Muslims as implacable adversaries. Muslims might have earned goodwill among the Hindus and the old slogan of Hindu-Muslim 'bhai-bhai' was likely to have received an energising shot in society. This would have made it extremely hard for the Hindutva rabble-rousers to succeed in their endeavour or for the BJP to rise to such heights. Above all, this solution could not have been seen as a victory or defeat but an amicable solution through social, rather than judicial, intervention. If anything, it had the potential of being seen as a great moral victory for the Muslims; after all, it is the sense of victory after the Ayodhya judgment that has made the votaries of Hindutva so aggressive. This would also have been in tune with the legacy of India's composite culture.

Making space for one another

So much has changed now that the future holds little promise for the demonstration of bonhomie between both communities by joining each other's festivals. Ways have to be found, even invented, of sharing substantial spaces between and indeed among communities. The primary requisite for this is to look beyond our own exclusivist straitjackets and make space for the inclusion of others along with their religious sentiments. Participation, rather than exclusion, is the way out.

Harbans Mukhia taught History at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Examining the Dolo scandal

The story stands on shaky legs, but the controversy lays bare the problem of the pharmaceuticals-doctors nexus

MURALI NEELAKANTAN & ASHISH KULKARNI

Recently, a controversy bubbled up regarding the marketing strategies of Micro Labs, a Bengaluru-based pharmaceutical company. Micro Labs, the maker of Dolo-650, was charged of having bribed medical doctors with freebies worth ₹1,000 crore in one year to promote Dolo-650.

Dolo is an analgesic and antipyretic – a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication to help with fever and mild pain. It can be purchased from a chemist without a medical prescription. It is actually plain paracetamol, which is a particularly crowded market and fairly competitive too, in a manner of speaking. The Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO) has established ceiling prices for over 850 medicines, including of brands of paracetamol. The ceiling price for a single 650 mg paracetamol tablet is ₹1.83 and for a single 500 mg tablet, it is ₹0.91. It is naturally more profitable for 650 mg to be sold. But how profitable, exactly? Do the incentives work out for the firm? In particular, does the economics work out in terms of giving away ₹1,000 crore of freebies?

The likelihood of freebies

The paracetamol API is mostly imported from China. There has been significant upward pricing pressure, mostly because of the difficulty of ensuring regular supply from China. But given the price ceiling and the level of competition, investing in the level of 'freebies' reported is unlikely. We are not suggesting that the problem of 'freebies' doesn't exist. But the supply chain for freebies is much easier to manage for specialty drugs such as chemotherapy drugs, or when products such as stents and knee and hip implants are directly sold to hospitals. For paracetamol, given the price ceiling and the number of competitors, tracking prescriptions and rewarding doctors is challenging.

You might argue that Micro Labs may have been willing to take a hit on their margins in order to bump up sales. Perhaps the freebies could be justified if there are other benefits? Well, higher sales at lower margins to the selling company might make sense, but this is a strategy usually employed to beef up the financials, in order to make the valuation look better. The truth comes out eventually. Or you may argue that this was a brand-building exercise in anticipation of higher over-the-counter sales, to help push through a sale of the brand to a pharmaceutical major. Without these angles, the story stands on shaky legs.

Legal provisions

Yet, thinking about this scandal is still instructive, for it lays bare the extent of the problem, beyond the paracetamol segment, let alone the specific product (Dolo). The Uniform Code of Pharmaceuticals Marketing Practices explicitly prohibits gifts, payments and hospitality benefits to doctors on the part of medical representatives. Pharmaceutical firms have been declaring their compliance with, and adherence to, this code since 2015, if not earlier. The kicker? This code has been fully voluntary since 2015. There is also no enforcement mechanism. The Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance, which is meant to "enforce" the code, has promptly given Micro Labs a 'clean chit'.

That being said, there are provisions that detract pharmaceutical firms from offering incentives. And they come from a somewhat unexpected source: the Income Tax Act, 1961. The Act explicitly disallows deductions for payments to doctors. Moreover, tax deducted at source (TDS) is applicable for all payments made to doctors. Workarounds are possible, but this acts as a huge financial disincentive for pharmaceutical companies.

There's more. Para 1.5 of the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 states that every physician should, as far as possible, prescribe drugs with generic names. It also states that there is both a rational prescription and use of pharmaceutical drugs. This is, of course, rarely done and there is no enforcement. This regulation also prohibits the disbursement of gifts. In this case, there is potential for enforcement – a reprimand, at the least – and even for cancellation of license, though this happens very rarely.

The solution is two-fold. First, a move to prescriptions without brand names should be the default practice. Doctors will then have no incentive to promote particular brands and pharmaceutical companies will have no incentive to give freebies to doctors. But even if doctors are not able to recommend a certain brand, pharmacists are. And their incentive is to recommend brands that give them the highest trade margins, which are based on the maximum retail price (MRP). We can remove this incentive by introducing a flat dispensing fee, regardless of MRP. This will restore agency to the patient.

Murali Neelakantan is an Indian advocate and English solicitor who was previously Global General Counsel at Cipla & Glenmark; Ashish Kulkarni teaches courses in economics and statistics

DATA POINT

The subsidy debate needs to reckon with power

Missing from the freebie debate are power subsidies, which constitute a significant share of the subsidy expenditure of many States

JASMIN NIHALANI

On July 16, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "There are some governments which are indulging in revri culture to secure votes." Later that month, the Supreme Court admitted a petition which contended that the offer and distribution of "irrational freebies" amounted to "bribery and was unduly influencing voters". During the hearing, Chief Justice N.V. Ramana said, "We are not just looking at this as just another problem during election time... We are looking at the national economic well-being."

Mr. Modi's statement drew criticism from the Opposition. Seeking to be made a party in the ongoing 'freebies' case, the DMK argued that the term 'freebies' could not be interpreted to restrict States' competence in providing welfare. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal retorted to the Prime Minister saying that "waiving off friends' loans worth thousands of crores... were nothing but freebies."

These exchanges were mostly focused on election-related freebies, which form a minuscule share of the subsidy expenditure. What was missing from the freebie debate was power subsidies, which constitute a significant share of the subsidy expenditure of many States. This is especially the case with States which are relatively more burdened by debt and also spend the most on subsidies. For instance, three States – Rajasthan, Punjab, and Bihar – spend over 80% of their subsidy expenditure on power.

Chart 1 shows the share of subsidy expenditure in four areas – power, food and civil supplies, agriculture, and industries – in the top five States which spent the most on subsidies between FY17 and FY21. The share of subsidy expenditure shown is as of FY21.

Various types of power subsidies are offered by the States targeting farmers, consumers, and industries. For the purpose of this analysis, all of them have been clubbed under one umbrella term called 'power subsidies'. For example, Andhra Pradesh offers power subsidies under several heads including 'free power to SC (Scheduled Caste) households', 'reimbursement of electricity charges,' and 'Y.S.R Nine Hours Free Power Supply.'

Rajasthan, Punjab, and Bihar are also the States that spend more than 25% of their own tax revenue on subsidies along with Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. Barring Bihar, all four spend close to 2% of the State Domestic Product on subsidies. The above figures are an average for the five-year period from FY17 to FY21.

All these States are also burdened with high levels of debt. Punjab, specifically, has the highest debt-to-GSDP ratio among the major States in FY22, crossing the 50% mark. The State's debt has grown by more than 10% points since FY17.

In these five States, in FY22, the debt-to-GSDP ratio was close to or above 30%. Like Punjab, Chhattisgarh too had touched double-digit growth in the debt-to-GSDP ratio. Table 2 lists subsidy expenditure as a share of own tax revenue and GSDP between FY17 and FY21. It also lists the debt-to-GSDP ratio in FY22 and the change since FY17.

Among the big spenders, shown in table 3(a), subsidy expenditure dipped in FY20 and FY21. However, this trend got reversed in FY22.

Even among States which spent a relatively low share on subsidies, an increasing trend can be observed. Table 3(b) shows that States such as Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh (which feature in the bottom half of table 2) have increased their subsidy expenditure to more than 1% of GSDP.

More importantly, even in States which are gradually increasing their subsidy expenses, a major chunk of subsidy is devoted to power. For instance, Andhra Pradesh spent 94% of subsidies on power in FY21 (Chart 4).

In both cases – States which are high subsidy spenders and those which are gradually increasing their spending – power constitutes a dominant chunk of subsidy expenses. It is evident that meaningful intervention on this issue is possible only by addressing the power component of subsidies. Reducing other 'freebies' will not bring down the debt levels of the States significantly.

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Freebie debate skirts power

Power constitutes a significant share of the subsidy expenditure of the States; yet it has not been part of the freebie debate so far. Here is a look at States' subsidy expenditure, how it has changed in the recent years and what makes up these subsidies

CHART 1 | Chart shows the break-up of subsidy expenditure (in %) of States in FY21 in four areas — power (●), food and civil supplies (●), agriculture (●), and industries (●). These States spent the most on subsidies between FY17 and FY21

TABLE 2 | Table lists subsidy expenditure as a share of own tax revenue (OTR) and GSDP between FY17 and FY21 (in %). It also shows the debt-to-GSDP ratio (%) in FY22* and the change (% points) since FY17

State	Share of OTR	Share of GSDP	Debt-GSDP	Change
Chhattisgarh	34.5	2.3	29.8	13.3
Rajasthan	35.4	2.1	39.8	6.2
M.P.	33.3	2.0	29.0	5.0
Punjab	30.8	1.9	53.3	10.5
Bihar	27.1	1.4	34.0	1.0
Maharashtra	17.9	1.2	20.4	2.4
Tamil Nadu	19.1	1.2	31.6	9.8
Haryana	20.0	1.2	35.3	8.7
Gujarat	22.6	1.1	21.4	0.5
Karnataka	17.1	1.1	25.7	8.2
West Bengal	20.3	1.0	38.8	0.1
Jharkhand	17.4	0.9	32.6	4.1
Telangana	11.5	0.8	27.4	15.0
Uttar Pradesh	10.5	0.7	34.2	-2.5
Himachal	14.1	0.7	43.4	5.8
Andhra	10.6	0.7	37.6	0.4
Odisha	9.5	0.6	26.7	8.4
Kerala	5.5	0.3	38.3	8.1

**Figures for FY22 debt-to-GSDP ratio are budget estimates*

TABLE 3 | Table lists subsidy expenditure as a share of GSDP (in %) between FY17 and FY22

Table A | Subsidy expenditure dipped among high spenders but recorded an increase in FY22

State	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
Punjab	1.4	1.5	2.6	1.9	1.8	2.5
Rajasthan	2.3	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.5	2.0
M.P.	2.5	2.7	2.6	1.3	1.4	1.6
Bihar	2.1	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.5
Chhattisgarh	1.6	1.8	2.6	3.3	2.1	NA

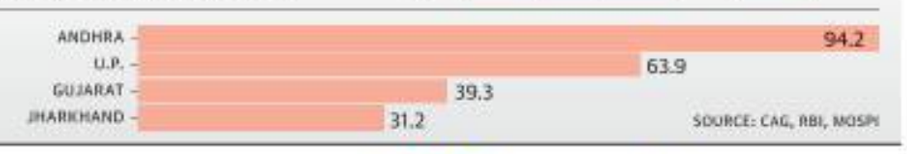
Table B | States which were relatively low spenders are gradually increasing their subsidy expenses

Gujarat	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.4	NA
Andhra	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.7	0.6	1.2
Jharkhand	0.8	0.5	0.7	1.4	1.1	1.6
U.P.	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.1
Kerala	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.4

Table C | States which neither increased nor decreased their subsidy expenses

Karnataka	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	NA
Maharashtra	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.5	NA
Odisha	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7
Tamil Nadu	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.1
Telangana	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.9
Haryana	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1
West Bengal	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.8	1.0	NA

CHART 4 | Chart shows the share of power in subsidy expenditure (in %) of States in FY21



SOURCE: CAG, RBI, MOSPI

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 15, 1972

Another drug causes child's death

Madras, Sept. 14: A five-month-old child died in a city hospital following the administration of a paediatric drug with propylene glycol as the base solvent. If the drug, whose properties are being examined, is proved to contain toxic elements, it may become another "child-killer", doctors fear. The male child, which died in the hospital, was admitted with complaints of anuria (failure to pass urine due to malfunctioning of kidney). Investigations by attending doctors revealed that the child was prescribed the drug along with a combination of other medicines to control fever and stomach pain. The doctors suspected the efficacy of the drug as there were already several complaints of complications on its administration. Following the death of the child, the matter was discussed by the doctors at an urgent meeting and the State Drugs Controller was notified. The doctors expressed the fear that if the drug proved to contain toxic elements the damage because of its administration might be alarming. For the drug, manufactured by a Bombay firm, was in the market throughout the country and it would be quite sometime before the particular batch was withdrawn. The results of the tests are expected in two or three days.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPT. 15, 1922

First forecast of gingelly crop

The forecast received from the Department of Statistics, India, is based on reports received from provinces which contain on an average 99.6 per cent of the entire area under gingelly in British India. The total area under the crop is 2,329,000 acres, as compared with 1,543,000 acres at this time last year. Sowings will continue in many places. Weather conditions at sowing time have been generally favourable, except in Bengal where drought not only interfered with sowing operations but also affected the growth of the plants. The present condition of the crop is on the whole good, but more rain is urgently wanted in some of the important gingelly growing tracts.

Madras (17.6 per cent): The area sown up to the end of July is estimated at 367,000 acres as compared with 347,000 acres the corresponding estimate of last year, showing an increase of 6 per cent. The early sown crops are reported to be doing well and the yield is expected to be up to average. The late sown crops are in need of more rain.

FROM PAGE ONE

Cong. meltdown in Goa as 8 MLAs defect to BJP

Speaking to reporters at the BJP party office where the Congress rebels were officially welcomed, a jubilant Mr. Sawant, who had engineered the 2019 coup as well, said: "The Congress was undertaking a Bharat Jodo Yatra, but a Congress *chhodo* yatra [leave Congress *yatra*] is now beginning from Goa. They have joined us to take Goa's development forward and to realise Prime Minister's vision of a New India. I welcome all eight MLAs to the BJP."

Stating that all eight Congressmen had joined the BJP "unconditionally", Mr. Sawant said what had started in Goa would be soon seen across the country as Congress leaders would leave their party *en masse* to join the BJP.

"We are confident of winning both the Lok Sabha seats in Goa [North Goa and South Goa seats] in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. The BJP will win more than 400 seats in the general election," Mr. Sawant said. "If anyone else wants to join the BJP, they are welcome to join us."

Stating that the BJP had 27 MLAs in its previous tenure and that the party's slogan had been to achieve '22+ seats' in the 2022 Goa Assembly, he observed that the BJP already had 28 MLAs (20 of its own along with the eight Congress defectors) before the end of 2022.

A major crisis within the Goa Congress was imminent after Goa desk in-charge Dinesh Gundu Rao had rushed to the coastal State in July to preclude a major split within the party. Mr. Rao had charged that the split was being engineered by Mr. Lobo and Mr. Kamat in coordination with the ruling BJP.

While the crisis appeared to have been averted at the time, the defections on Wednesday prove it was merely postponed.

'Shameful exercise'

Mr. Rao, in a tweet, lashed out against the BJP, stating: "The destruction of democratic principles is in full display in Goa. Offering huge monies, ministries and inducements, the BJP is trying to uproot the Opposition. Shameful exercise of power and money by an authoritarian establishment."

Speaking after joining the BJP, Mr. Kamat explained away his *volte face* by quipping: "In politics, circumstances sometimes compelled one to take a hard decision. Yes, I had taken the oath in front of God not to leave the Congress. Now, I asked God what to do and He told me to decide accordingly. So, I have taken a decision in the interests of the State after looking at the work of PM Narendra Modi."

Nervous BJP fast-tracked 'Operation Kichad': Cong

Echoing him, Congress leader Pawan Khera said the BJP had been rattled by the *yatra* and organised 'Operation Kichad' in Goa.

"The fallout of the panic that set in the BJP over the Bharat Jodo Yatra was seen in Goa. For many months, they were trying and was using usual tactics like using Central agencies, luring people with money, issue threats through musclemen and so on," Mr. Khera said in a video that he put up on Twitter.

"The Congress has undertaken a difficult journey and those who are not able to support this path of uniting India, fearing the threats of BJP are free to leave and join those who break," Mr. Khera said.

Calling it a brazen display of corruption, party spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said, "People who compromise their values beyond a point, you cannot have a dialogue with them."

Putting up a photo of the defecting Congress MLAs meeting Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Lok Sabha member Manickam Tagore tweeted, "Sold out."

'Hindi not a competitor of regional languages'

Mr. Shah said native languages in the country would prosper only when Hindi prospered and vice versa.

"So long as we do not accept the co-existence of languages, we cannot realise the dream of running the country in our own language. And I want to say with sincerity that it should be our aim to keep all the languages and mother tongues alive and prosperous. Only with the prosperity of all these languages will Hindi prosper," Mr. Shah added.

Citing personal experience, Mr. Shah said children who studied in their mother language could learn Hindi easily.

Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, in a written message, said all regional languages were rich in history, literature, knowledge, science and cultural traditions, yet "it is Hindi which as a contact language ties the entire country together in a thread".

BCCI office-bearers can have two terms

The 'cooling-off period' was a major recommendation made by the Justice R.M. Lodha Committee to reform cricket administration in the country. In its 2018 judgment, the top court had seen eye-to-eye with Justice Lodha's conclusion that "the game will be better off without cricketing oligopolies". For this end, the court had supported the recommendation of the Justice Lodha panel that cricket administrators should undergo a "cooling-off period" before fighting elections to the BCCI or State associations.

On Wednesday, the court accepted other modifications to the BCCI Constitution, including lifting the bar on office-bearers having posts in other sports bodies.

The Bench pointed out that many eminent sportspersons patronise other sports and were part of other sports associations. "There is no need to disqualify them for that," Justice Chandrachud said.

The court also removed the disqualification on office-bearers who have been charged with criminal offences. The BCCI had pleaded that disqualification should only kick in after they are convicted and sentenced of the crime.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta argued that many of these prosecutions could even turn out to be frivolous at the end. The court agreed.

The court also agreed that disqualification from being an office-bearer should be restricted to government Ministers and public servants.

'EWS quota an affront to equal society'

It stops people from freeing themselves from shackles of caste and religion, say petitioners in SC

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The 10% reservation of seats and jobs in government educational institutions and offices for economically weaker forward classes is an affront to the constitutional goal of an egalitarian and casteless society, petitioners argued in the Supreme Court on September 14.

By excluding Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes from claiming benefits under the 10% quota for 'economically weaker sections' or EWS, the government, through its 103rd Constitutional Amendment, has condemned the members of backward classes for belonging to the religions or caste they are born into.

> The EWS quota condemns me to the caste or religion I was born into... People who have stopped identifying themselves with their birthmarks, caste or religion... Are these people to be denied their fundamental right to equal opportunities?
>
> RAVI VERMA KUMAR
> Senior advocate in Supreme Court

The EWS quota stops people from freeing themselves from the shackles of their caste and religion. Even people who do not see themselves as SC/ST/OBC are compelled to identify themselves on the basis of their castes and claim quota from within the 50% available to them.

"People who lead a cosmopolitan life are exponentially growing. The Constitution has said that a casteless society should be our goal. The EWS quota condemns me to the caste or religion I was born into. I cannot claim the 10% quota because I am considered to be SC/ST/OBC. I may have never availed benefits, sought reservation or job on the basis of my caste quota... There are highly evolved people who have stopped identifying themselves with their birthmarks, caste or religion they were born into... Are these people to be denied their fundamental right to equal opportunities?" senior advocate Ravi Verma Kumar asked a Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice of India U.U. Lalit.

Mr. Kumar said the EWS quota, by doling out 10% reservation to forward classes, took away the 10% from the population.

"The backward classes, who were given the fundamental right to claim reservation, are disqualified from even making an application for admission or applying for a job under the 10% quota," he submitted.

The EWS quota was "manifestly arbitrary" as it violated the tenet of equal opportunity and equal rights before the laws. "Under the EWS quota, without prescribing any criteria, anyone can be given 10 seats in a medical college," he said.

Senior advocate Salman Khurshid said reservation was affirmative action by the state to address structural inequality.

Senior advocate P. Wilson argued that the concept of reservation was meant to achieve social justice and not economical justice. "Reservation was meant as a cure for historical discrimination impeding access of backward classes to public administration and education... Poverty as an exclusive test cannot be the basis of reservation," he argued.

Concerns over I-T surveys on NGOs raised

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A group of 600 citizens, including retired civil servants, teachers, doctors and social workers, in a statement on September 13 expressed their concern over the recent Income Tax surveys conducted at the offices of think-tanks, NGOs and independent media organisations.

The signatories expressed their solidarity with "all of us" and termed the recent actions alarming and unfounded. "In the not-too-distant future they will come for us, each one of us. Not just for civil society. Or any other group," the statement said.

The signatories said those facing the Income Tax Department's actions were not "against the government", but "for the nation".

The signatories included film-makers, writers, journalists, human rights activists and students.

'Hijab ban amounts to discrimination'

It should not be viewed as a 'simple case of discipline', says petitioner

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The prohibition imposed on Muslim students from wearing hijab in classrooms in Karnataka should not be viewed as a "simple case of discipline" but as discrimination on the ground of sex and religion, senior advocate Rajiv Dhavan told the Supreme Court on Wednesday.

Appearing before a Bench led by Justice Hemant Gupta for student-petitioner Aliya Assadi, Mr. Dhavan said his client was a Karate champion who chose to compete "in hijab".

He said that in certain States, in Kerala, hijab was viewed as *farz*. "Across India, across the world, hijab is recognised as a valid practice," Mr. Dhavan contended.

Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, on the Bench, asked whether the proscription was limited to one school in Karnataka. "Then it spread to other schools... This is simply poking one aspect of the religion and saying 'let us see if we can get this aspect of religion struck out by the courts'," Mr. Dhavan replied.

Members of an Islamic organisation staging a protest near Martyrs' Column in Thiruvananthapuram. • FILE PHOTO

The court asked whether it has to go into the aspect of whether wearing hijab was an essential religious practice in Islam. Mr. Dhavan said if hijab was recognised widely as an established practice, the courts should not act as "high priests" of what was or not an essential religious practice. The courts were simply not equipped to do so.

"But if a dispute arises on that? Who will then decide?" Justice Gupta asked. Mr. Dhavan referred to the court's decision in the Bijoe Emmanuel case, saying the court had to only see if a practice was prevalent, was established and a *bona fide* one.

"You do not have to examine scholarly books to find out if it was an essential religious practice. That is outside the court's ambit," Mr. Dhavan said.

He pointed out that hijab is allowed in public places but banned in classrooms. The onus was on the authorities to show that their restriction was reasonable. "What public order is disturbed if a child wears hijab to her classroom?" he asked. He said it was the obligation of the authorities to have an inclusive and the least restrictive approach.

"The campaign 'hijab must go' amounts to massive discrimination targeting Muslim women, their right to choose," Mr. Dhavan said. Senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi, for another student, said the Constitution enshrined the principle of fraternity. "Fraternity means unity in diversity and not standardisation. It upholds individual human dignity," Mr. Ahmadi argued.

He questioned the State's legitimate interest in prohibiting hijab in classroom. "What is the legitimate State interest involved here? It is to encourage education. It is not to encourage restrictions which would increase dropouts from school," Mr. Ahmadi submitted.

No specific law against hate speech: EC

Poll body says it resorts to provisions under IPC, RP Act to curb such violations

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission of India (ECI) in the Supreme Court has said that due to the lack of a specific law against hate speech and rumour mongering during polls, it has to resort to the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Representation of the People (RP) Act to ensure that members of political parties do not make statements which can create disharmony in society.

"In the absence of any specific law governing hate speech and rumour mongering during elections, the Election Commission of India employs various provisions of the IPC and the RP Act, 1951 to ensure that members of political parties do not make statements to the effect of creating disharmony," the poll body said.

The ECI said the Law Commission of India, in its 267th Report, had not made any recommendations with regard to a specific query [from the Supreme Court] on whether the ECI ought to be conferred with the power to derecognise a political party for committing the "offence of hate speech".

> The injury to the citizens is extremely large because 'hate speech and rumour-mongering' has the potential of provoking individuals or society to commit acts of terrorism. Hate speech is considered outside the realm of protective discourse
>
> ASHWINI UPADHYAY
> Petitioner

No curbing action

Neither did the Law Commission make any recommendations to Parliament to strengthen the Election Commission to curb the "menace of hate speeches, irrespective of whenever made".

The poll body said hate speeches were "often interconnected with appeals to religion, caste, community, etc, during election campaigning.

It referred to several Supreme Court judgments, among them the Abhiram Singh case, which had held that "any appeal to vote or refrain from voting for a candidate on the grounds of religion, caste, race, community or language by a candidate or his agent to the electors would amount to corrupt practice under the 1951 Act".

This judgment had been brought to the notice of political parties in January 2017. The parties were told by the ECI to desist from making hate statements. Hate speech and communal statements by candidates or their agents could be raised in election petitions.

Though the Model Code of Conduct had no "legal sanctity", the ECI said it had introduced guidelines in the Code asking parties to desist from making communal statements. In case any complaints were made, the ECI said it took "strict note" of it.

The ECI was responding to a plea by lawyer Ashwini Upadhyay seeking directions to the Centre to take apposite steps to implement recommendations of the Law Commission Report 267 on hate speech.

"The injury to the citizens is extremely large because 'hate speech and rumour-mongering' has the potential of provoking individuals or society to commit acts of terrorism, genocides, ethnic cleansing, etc. Hate speech is considered outside the realm of protective discourse," Mr. Upadhyay's petition said.

Cabinet okays addition of four tribes to ST list

Demands for inclusion were pending

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the addition of four tribes to the list of Scheduled Tribes, including those from Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Chhattisgarh. Demands for inclusion of the communities have been pending for decades, Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda announced at a Cabinet briefing on Wednesday.

The Hatti tribe in the Trans-Giri area of Sirmour district in Himachal Pradesh, the Narikoravan and Kurivikkaran hill tribes of Tamil Nadu and the Binjhia in Chhattisgarh, who were listed as ST in Jharkhand and Odisha but not in Chhattisgarh, were the communities newly added to the list on Wednesday.

Further, the Cabinet approved a proposal to bring the Gond community residing in 13 districts of Uttar Pradesh, under the ST list from the Scheduled Caste list.

This includes the five subcategories of the Gond community (Dhuria, Nayak, Ojha, Pathari, and Rajgond).

Mr. Munda said the demand for the Binjhia tribe to be added to the ST list in Chhattisgarh had been pending for around 15 years.

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur, who also attended the briefing, said the Hatti tribe had been seeking their inclusion for around 50 years. Like the Binjhia community, the Hatti tribe had been in the ST list in neighbouring Uttarakhand but not in Himachal Pradesh.

Mr. Munda said the inclusion of the Hatti community will benefit around 1.6 lakh people of this area-specific tribe in Himachal Pradesh.

The Cabinet approved 'Betta-Kuruba' as a synonym for the Kadu Kuruba tribe in Karnataka.

'New system not giving time to take up cases'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A Supreme Court Bench led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul has said the new listing system hardly gives any time to hear cases post-lunch.

"The new listing system is not giving adequate time to take up matters fixed for hearing like the present case as there are number of matters within the span of 'Afternoon' session," a Bench of Justices Kaul and A.S. Oka recorded in a judicial order, adjourning a case to November 15.

It is rather curious that the apex court has adjourned a case because of the workload caused by its own system of listing cases.

The new listing system is one of the sweeping reforms introduced by Chief Justice of India U.U. Lalit immediately after he took over as top judge. The volume of cases being listed has grown exponentially since then.

India shares concern with U.S. on F-16 refit

Rajnath discusses growing convergence of strategic interests with Lloyd Austin

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday conveyed its concern over the recent U.S. approval of a $450-million sustenance package for Pakistan's F-16 fighter fleet. This was conveyed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during a telephonic conversation with the U.S. Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin. This is the first official response from India on this issue.

Rajnath Singh

"I conveyed India's concern at the recent U.S. decision to provide sustenance package for Pakistan's F-16 fleet," Mr. Singh said on Twitter. "Had a warm and productive conversation with Mr. Austin and ... discussed growing convergence of strategic interests and enhanced defence and security cooperation."

Stating that they also discussed ways to strengthen technological and industrial collaboration and also explore cooperation in emerging and critical technologies, Mr. Singh added, "Look forward to continuing dialogue with Secretary Austin to further consolidating India-U.S. partnership."

On September 7, the Defence Security Cooperation Agency notified a possible Foreign Military Sales (FMS) worth $450 million for engine, electronic warfare and other hardware and software upgrades and spares for the F-16 fighter jet programme with Pakistan. It also said that the proposed sale does not include any new capabilities, weapons, or munitions.

AIE evacuates flyers after engine smoke

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

As many as 141 passengers to Kochi were evacuated from an Air India Express aircraft in Muscat on Wednesday as smoke billowing out from one of its engines. The flight was preparing for take off at 11.20 a.m. local time.

In a statement, the airline said that when the aircraft was on the taxiway, the crew of another aircraft reported observing fumes from one of the engines, though there was no fire warning indication in the cockpit.

The airline said all passengers were safe, but some sustained minor bruises during evacuation. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation is investigating.

Court to hear Vernon's bail plea tomorrow

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) court will hear activist Vernon Gonsalves's bail on September 16 as he continues to be on oxygen support at the State-run J.J. hospital.

Mr. Gonsalves, 67, accused in the Bhima Koregaon case, filed for a medical bail before the special NIA court last week after he had high fever for a week.

He was admitted to the hospital on September 8 and is currently undergoing treatment for dengue.

IN BRIEF

Murmu to join 500 world leaders at Queen's funeral

LONDON

President Droupadi Murmu will be among an estimated 500 world leaders and foreign dignitaries, including kings and queens and heads of state and government, who will attend Queen Elizabeth II's state funeral at Westminster Abbey on Monday. PTI

Police showed restraint, says Mamata Banerjee

KOLKATA

A day after violence erupted in Kolkata and Howrah during a BJP march to the Secretariat, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said the police had exercised restraint. "They have destroyed everything. People were harassed. Yes police could have fired, but that is not desirable. Police remained restrained and tried to manage [the situation]."

India, Pak. have a chance to break the ice: Mirwaiz

SRINAGAR

Hurriyat chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Wednesday expressed hope that the upcoming meeting between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan in Samarkand "will break the ice in their relationship". "It is an opportunity to break the ice in their relationship and talk to each other and move forward in resolving their differences, including the settlement of the Kashmir conflict," the Mirwaiz said in a statement.

Two militants killed in Srinagar encounter

SRINAGAR

Security forces killed two militants in an anti-militancy operation in Srinagar on Wednesday evening. "On a specific input generated by the police, an encounter (with hiding militants) started in Nowgam area of Srinagar district on Wednesday. Two militants were killed," a police spokesman said. The police said the identification and the affiliation of the slain militants were being ascertained.

'One problem less on border'

Jaishankar refers to disengagement at PP-15; calls France an Indo-Pacific player

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Sharing concerns: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with his French counterpart, Catherine Colonna, in New Delhi. •PTI

India on Wednesday "recognised" that the latest disengagement at Patrolling Point (PP) 15 in the Gogra-Hot Springs area of eastern Ladakh amounted to "one problem less" along the India-China frontier.

The comment from External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar came a day before Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to travel to Samarkand in Uzbekistan for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, which is expected to witness participation of all the heads of governments of the member countries, including President Xi Jinping of China.

Speaking at a joint press meeting with visiting French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna, Mr. Jaishankar said, "You have heard me speak many times about the border. I don't think I would say anything new there today, except I would recognise that we had disengagement at PP-15 and that disengagement as I understand was completed and that is one problem less on the border."

The Hindu had reported that the withdrawal of troops had been verified after India and China announced that their Armies had begun to disengage from PP-15 at Gogra-Hot Springs. The Ministry of External Affairs, however, had pointed to the remaining issues at the Line of Action Control (LAC).

By referring to the problems on the India-China border, Mr. Jaishankar has indirectly drawn attention to the friction points at Demchok and Depsang that remain. That apart, the overall situation at the border remains far from a complete resolution as Beijing continues to maintain that it would not accept India's demand for *status quo ante* at the LAC.

The issue of the military tension between India and China came up during the interaction with the media when both the French and Indian Ministers referred to the Ukraine crisis and the tension over China's military drills in close proximity to Taiwan.

Mr. Jaishankar referred to France as a "player" in the Indo-Pacific which had a long history of being active in the Indo-Pacific region and the Indian Ocean.

Ms. Colonna indicated that Paris had been following the India-China tension, saying, "When the core principles of the international rules-based order are flouted anywhere, they are weakened everywhere, including in the Indo-Pacific, where respect for international law has been undermined for some time now. India knows this better than anyone else."

"We are very concerned about the development in Ukraine but not forgetting what is happening in the Indo-Pacific...What applies to Europe and the Indo-Pacific applies everywhere: France and India reject a world where 'might makes right'."

PM gave away 1,000 sq. km to China without fight: Cong.

When will *status quo ante* at LAC be restored, it asks

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Rahul Gandhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has "given away 1,000 square kilometres of land to China without a fight", Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said on Wednesday, responding to the reports of disengagement between Indian and Chinese troops in eastern Ladakh.

Mr. Gandhi said China had refused to accept India's demand of restoring *status quo ante* at the border as in April 2020.

"China has refused to accept India's demand of restoring *status quo* of April 2020. PM has given 1,000 sq. km of territory to China without a fight. Can the government of India explain how this territory will be retrieved," Mr. Gandhi asked on Twitter.

Addressing a press conference, party spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said this was not the first time that "we are disengaging and creating buffer zones" in areas where the Indian side carried out its patrol.

"First it happened in Galwan, then it happened in Gogra and now it is happening in Hotsprings. Why is our Army being made to push back? Why is our Army being made to give up patrolling points where we had been patrolling up until now?" Ms Shrinate said.

Ms. Shrinate said the Prime Minister had promised the country that "we will go to *status quo ante*".

The Congress spokesperson claimed that the disengagement process was linked to the upcoming SCO summit in Uzbekistan where Prime Minister Modi is expected to meet Chinese President Xi Jingping.

"Why is there no *status quo ante* as far as April 2020 is concerned?"she said, adding, "We also want to know that with cheap publicity and cheap popularity with domestic audience, why is our foreign security and foreign policy being compromised?"

"Is this happening because China has seen chink in our armour which is that our Prime Minister is given to false propaganda, the PM does not care about our territorial integrity or he does not care about our national security," Ms. Shrinate asked.

Two minor Dalit sisters found dead in U.P. village

STAFF REPORTER
LUCKNOW

Two minor Dalit sisters, aged 15 and 17, were found hanging from a tree at a village under the Nighasan police station limits in Lakhimpur Kheri district of Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday.

The family of the deceased said that three youth from a nearby village had abducted the girls. They staged a demonstration at the Nighasan crossing, a few kilometres from the village. The police recovered the bodies and sent them for a post-mortem examination.

Due to the sensitivity of the case, Inspector-General of Police, Lucknow range, Laxmi Singh, and Lakhimpur Kheri Superintendent of Police Sanjiv Suman reached the spot with a large contingent of personnel, and assured the villagers that the police would arrest the accused at the earliest. They requested the villagers to cooperate with the district administration.

Targeting the State government over the incident, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Twitter, "The murder of two sisters in Lakhimpur Kheri is shocking. The family members of the victims are saying that the deceased were kidnapped in broad daylight. Only by giving advertisement in newspapers and TV, the law and order will not improve. Why crime against women is increasing in U.P.?"

The Samajwadi Party demanded stringent punishment for the culprits.

Congress reviews preparations for party poll

Party's central election authority tells returning officers to issue QR-coded identity cards to PCC delegates

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Coming soon: The notification for the Congress president's election will be out on September 22 . •REUTERS

Reviewing preparedness for the upcoming election for a new Congress president, the central election authority (CEA) on Wednesday asked all returning officers to ensure that new Pradesh Congress Committees (PCC), State unit chiefs and the AICC members are elected before September 20, and all PCC delegates are given identity cards with QR codes.

This message was conveyed by the chairman of the CEA, Madhusudan Mistry, to all the pradesh returning officers (PROs) at a meeting at the party headquarters.

Sources said that given the tight poll schedule, the PCCs would follow the long-held convention and would pass a resolution to authorise the Congress president to nominate/elect the State unit heads.

However, sources said, it was only to meet the requirements of the party's constitution and would not have any bearing on the Congress presidential election. The electoral college of 9,000-plus delegates is in place and, it will, in turn, elect the new party chief.

Sources added that the PROs had been asked not to encourage any resolution that favoured a particular candidate for the All India Congress Committee (AICC) president.

The notification for the Congress president's election will be out on September 22 by when all the PCC and AICC delegates will be finalised and the electoral roll published.

With former party chief Rahul Gandhi dropping a clear hint that he is not likely to be in the presidential race, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot is the frontrunner. Mr. Gehlot not only enjoys the confidence of the Gandhis, but also has years of experience both in the government as well as the organisation.

While a section of the Congress is keen to avoid a contest, some of the leaders who are part of the G-23 - the ginger group that has been pushing for an organisational overhaul and reforms - may want to force a contest. Prominent among them is Shashi Thaoor, who has not ruled out contesting the election.

Along with G-23 colleague Manish Tewari, Mr. Tharoor has been demanding transparency and wanted the list of electors to be made public. Responding to their concerns, the CEA said that any member desirous of contesting can peruse the electoral roll at its office at the AICC headquarters and would be provided with a copy of the electors once his or her nomination is found to be in order.

SP MLAs prevented from staging protest

STAFF REPORTER
LUCKNOW

Amid a high-voltage face-off, the Uttar Pradesh police on Wednesday stopped the Opposition Samajwadi Party (SP) MLAs from going to protest at the Vidhan Bhavan in Lucknow.

The SP had planned a dharna against inflation, unemployment and the law-and-order situation in the State from September 14-18 in front of Chaudhary Charan Singh's statue in the Vidhan Bhavan.

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Thalamuthu Natarajan Building, No.1, Gandhi Irwin Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI) CORRIGENDUM

In the REOI published in THE HINDU, dated 31.08.2022, the remuneration for Senior Planning Advisor fixed as **Rs.25,00,000/-** per annum is now enhanced with the following corrigendum.

REFERENCE	AS PUBLISHED	CORRIGENDUM ISSUED
REOI Published in THE HINDU, dated 31.08.2022	Last date and time for submission of Expression of Interest (EOI) is **15.09.2022 upto 5.00 p.m.**	Last date and time for submission of Expression of Interest (EOI) is **22.09.2022 upto 5.00 p.m.**
Remuneration in REOI published in CMDA's website	The consultant will be paid with a maximum remuneration of approximately **Rs.25,00,000/-** per annum.	The consultant will be paid with a maximum remuneration of approximately **Rs.39,00,000/-** per annum.

Any further Clarification / Corrigendum / Amendment or Extension shall be notified in CMDA's website only. Applicants should regularly visit the website to keep themselves updated. Website:**www.cmdachennai.gov.in**

DIPR/953/DISPLAY/2022 — Member Secretary, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER AND DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.
E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TENDER NOTICE

E-procurement T.No.CE(AM)/AP/GNT/Ep/17/2022-23, Dated:14-9-2022
Online tenders are invited by the Chief Engineer (AM) Guntur from the registered civil contractors and reputed firms (i) 84Nos. of Multipurpose Facilitation centers (MPFCs) Godowns at various Villages and other constructional works at various Market Yards costing of Rs.36,45,06,236/-. Eprocurement site opens on Dt.19-9-2022 at 4.00 P.M. (ii) Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Machinery for e-NAM Market Yards across the State of Andhra Pradesh. Eprocurement site opens on Dt. 15-9-2022 at 4.00 PM. Any other information can be had from the **www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** or from the office of the Chief Engineer (AM), O/o Comm. & Director Agrl. Marketing, Chuttugunta Center, Guntur.
Chief Engineer (AM),
O/o Commissioner and Director of Agrl.Marketing
Govt. of A.P, Guntur.

ODISHA HYDRO POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
Regd.Office: ODISHA STATE POLICE HOUSING & WELFARE CORPORATION BUILDING VANIVIHAR CHOUK, JANPATH, BHOINAGAR, BHUBANESWAR – 751022
Tel: 91 -0674-2542983, 2542832, 2545526, Fax-2542102, e-mail - ohpc.co@gmail.com
CIN : U40101OR1995SGC003963
No.OHPC:OHPC:TECH:C&P:04/2022-23/ 6224 Dated : 08.09.2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO.OHPC/CO/C&P/19/2022-23

Sealed tenders are invited in two parts i.e. (i) Techno Commercial Bid & (ii) Price Bid in separate sealed envelopes from the **Registered Manufacturers / Manufacture's Channel Partner only** having valid GST Registration Certificate & IT PAN for the following work :

Description of Services	Cost of Tender Paper (Non-refundable) in Rs.	EMD
Design, Manufacturing, Supply including Supervision of Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 01 no of 11/235 KV, 63 MVA Generator Transformer for Rengali Hydro Electric Project, Rengali	11,800/- (10,000 + GST @18%)	Bid Security Declaration Form duly signed by the bidder in lieu of EMD

For details of the tender documents, terms and conditions please visit / refer our website www.ohpcltd.com from Dated 17.09.2022.
CAD-1796 — C & P Head
OPR-04012/11/0022/2223

Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI)
(Under Department of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. of India)
E-1, 8th Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn., New Delhi-110055

WALK-IN-INTERVIEWS
Advt. No. PMBI/04/2022

Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) is the implementing agency for **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana** of **Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India.** The objective of the scheme is to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all. PMBI is expanding it's operations and has urgent requirement on various positions. Walk-in-Interviews for such positions shall be held as follows:

S. No.	Name of Posts	Department	Walk-in-Interviews (Date, Day and Time)
1.	Senior Executive	IT & MIS	22.09.2022 (Thursday) (09:30 AM to 11:30 AM)
2.	Executive	Logistic & Supply Chain	22.09.2022 (Thursday) (11:30 AM to 2:30 PM)
3.	Marketing Officer / Senior Marketing Officer	Sales & Marketing	22.09.2022 (Thursday) (2:30 PM to 5:30 PM)

Eligible candidates may appear for Walk-in-Interviews at **Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI)** at **E-1, 8th Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn., New Delhi - 110055.** For application form, detailed terms and conditions, visit at our **website: www.janaushadhi.gov.in.**
CEO

पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिका, पिंपरी १८
विद्युत विभाग
ई-निविदा सुचना क्र. - निविदा नोटीस क्र. विद्युत /मुख्यालय /27-01/2022-23

पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिके कडून खालील नमूद केलेल्या कामासाठी ई-टेंडरिंग पध्दतीने परसेंट रेट निविदा मागविण्यात येत आहे.प्रचलित दराने GST बिलात अदा केली जाईल त्यामुळे GST वगळून दर द्यावेत.

निविदा नोटीस क्रमांक	कामाचे नाव	निविदा रक्कम	बयाणा रक्कम	अनामत रक्कम	कामाची मुदत (महिने)	निविदा फॉर्म की जीएसटी सह (परत न मिळणारी)
27-01/ 2022-23	केंद्र शासनाच्या पंतप्रधान आवास योजनेअंतर्गत पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिकेमार्फत आर्थिकदृष्ट्य दुर्बल घटकांसाठी बी-डाडेवाडी येथे निवासी गाळे बांधणे (विद्युतपुरवठा करणे व विद्युतविषयक इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर कामे करणे)	80735703/-	403679/-	4036785/-	3	22,523/-

निविदा करिता वेळापत्रक

ई -निविदा उपलब्ध कालावधी	:-	दिनांक 15/09/2022 ते 10/10/2022
निविदा पूर्व सभा	:-	दिनांक 27/09/2022 सकाळी 11.00 वा.
ई -निविदा स्विकृती अंतिम वेळ व दिनांक	:-	दिनांक 10/10/2022 दुपारी 3.00 वा.
निविदा उघडणेचा दिनांक	:-	दिनांक 11/10/2022 दुपारी 3.00 वा. (शक्य झाल्यास)

वरील कामांसाठीचा तपशील उदा. बयाणा, अनामत रक्कम, निविदाच्या अटी शर्ती, निविदा शेड्यूल्ड बी इ. माहिती **https://mahatenders.gov.in** या वेबसाईटवर उपलब्ध आहे. सदरची निविदा पध्दत ई टेंडरिंग पध्दतीने मनपाच्या वेबसाईटवरुन निविदा भरावयाची आहे.

सदरची ई टेंडरिंग प्रक्रिये अंतर्गत निविदा वर नमुद केलेल्या दिनांक व वर नमुद केलेल्या वेळेपर्यंत ई-टेंडरिंग पध्दतीने वेबसाईटवरुनच भरता येतील, निविदाधारकांनी निविदेची फॉर्म फी बयाणा रक्कम मनपा पेमेंट गेट वे सिस्टिमद्वारे भरावयाची आहे, कोणतेही कारण न देता निविदा पुर्णतः किंवा अंशतः मंजुर अथवा नामंजुर करण्याचा अधिकार मा. आयुक्त सो. यांनी स्वतःकडे राखून ठेवला आहे, सदरची निविदा **https://mahatenders.gov.in** या वेबसाईटवर उपलब्ध आहे.

सदरची ई निविदा प्रणाली वापराबाबत काही तांत्रिक अडचण निर्माण झाल्यास NIC यांचेकडील ई-मेल support-eproc@nic.in अथवा Help Desk Number 0120-4200462,0120-4001002,0120-4001005, 0120-6277787 या दुरध्वनीवर संपर्क साधावा.

सही/-
(संजय खाबडे)
सह शहर अभियंता (वि.)
पिंपरी चिंचवड महानगरपालिका
पिंपरी - १८

जाहिरात क्रमांक - 229
क्र. विमुका/05/ कावि/ 416/ 2022
दि. 14/09/2022

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
AUCTION PROGRAMME
NOTICE NO.10/2022

1) e-auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous Scrap, Non-Ferrous scrap, other Misc Scrap, condemned Wagon, coaches & Locos, Scrap Rail's and other Permanent Way scrap material.

Sl. No	e-auction conducted by	Date of auction for the month of October-22			Materials for auction
1.	GSD/PER	10.10.22	19.10.22	26.10.22	The details of item to be sold in e-auction will be available in catalogue in www.ireps.gov.in website
2.	CSSD/GOC	03.10.22	11.10.22	21.10.22	
3.	SSD/PTJ	03.10.22	11.10.22	21.10.22	
4.	MAS Division	06.10.22	14.10.22	25.10.22	
5.	SA Division	06.10.22	14.10.22	25.10.22	
6.	TVC Division	07.10.22	17.10.22	27.10.22	
7.	PGT Division	07.10.22	17.10.22	27.10.22	
8.	TPJ Division	12.10.22	20.10.22	25.10.22	
9.	MDU Division	12.10.22	20.10.22	25.10.22	

ADDENDUM TO AUCTION PROGRAMME FOR SEPTEMBER-22
NOTICE NO.09/2022

Sl. No	e-auction conducted by	Date of auction for the month of Sep-22	Materials for auction
1.	GSD/PER	28/09/22	The details of item to be sold in e-auction will be available in catalogue in www.ireps.gov.in website
2.	CSSD/GOC	28/09/22	
3.	SSD/PTJ	28/09/22	
4.	MAS Division	29/09/22	
5.	SA Division	29/09/22	
6.	TPJ Division	29/09/22	
7.	MDU Division	29/09/22	
8.	TVC Division	30/09/22	
9.	PGT Division	30/09/22	

ALL Other Auctions scheduled for September 2022 remain unaltered.
For detailed terms and conditions and downloading of catalogue please visit our web-site http://www.ireps.gov.in → E-Auction → Sale → Live Auctions.
Principal Chief Materials Manager
Follow us on: twitter.com/GMSRailway

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF TELANGANA LIMITED
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE /e-PROCUREMENT SHORT TENDER NOTICE

The TSTRANSCO invites bids through tenders on e-procurement platform for the following works:

Sl. No.	Specification No.	Name of the work
1	TST- CONST- e - 07/2022-23 of CE(Construction)	Supply, Erection, Testing and commissioning of 132/33KV substation at Nuthankal, Stringing of 2nd circuit from Loc.No.16 to Loc.No.75 (Tapping Tower) on existing 132KV DC/SC line from 400/220/132KV SS Suryapet to 132/33KV SS Thungathurthy towers, Erection of 132KV DC/SC line from Loc.No.75 (Tapping tower) to proposed to 132/33KV SS Nuthankal, erection of 132KV Bay extension at 400/220/132KV SS Suryapet in Nalgonda District on turnkey basis.
2	TST- CONST- e -09 / 2022-23 of CE(Construction)	Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of (i)132/33KV SS Raparthy, (ii) 132KV DC/SC line(8KM) from 132 KV SS Pedda Shankarampet to the proposed 132/33 KV SS Raparthy, (iii) 1No. 132 KV Bay at 132 KV SS Pedda Shankarampet in Sangareddy District on turnkey basis.
3	TST- CONST-e-11/2022-23/CE (Construction)	Supply, erection, testing & commissioning of following works on turnkey basis i.1No.132kV bay at existing 132/33 KV Alampur SS for 132KV RTSS Manopad. ii.132KV DC/SC line from existing 132/33 KV Alampur SS to proposed RTSS Manopad for a length of about 12 KM in Jogulamba district. iii.1No.132kV metering bay at proposed 132 KV RTSS Manopad in Jogulamba district.

i) Tender documents will be available on website.ii) Name & address of the officer inviting tenders –Chief Engineer/ Construction/ TSTRANSCO/Vidyut Soudha/ Hyderabad.iii) The contractors/firms are requested to upload the information in zip format preferably.iv) Further details can be seen @ http://www.e-procurement.gov.in /http://www.tender.telangana.gov.in
PHONE No. 040-23396000, Extn: 3508, 3572, 3366, 3573, 3643. / FAX NO: 040-23383453, 040-23336171.
Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER CONSTRUCTION
Rc No.27/22

IN BRIEF

Mike Hankey is U.S. Consul-General

MUMBAI

Senior diplomat Mike Hankey took charge as the Consul General at the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai recently. The former journalist, who succeeded David J. Ranz, has done stints in the Middle East and Africa. "I am honoured to represent the U.S. in Western India at a time when the U.S.-India relationship is stronger than ever. As we celebrate 75 years of diplomatic ties, we will continue to work to build a more prosperous, free, and secure world," he said.

ED seizes assets worth ₹47.76 cr. in bank fraud

NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has seized 91.50-kg of gold and 340 kg of silver, worth ₹47.76 crore, during the searches in connection with a money laundering case against Parekh Aluminex Limited which has been accused of cheating the banks. The agency zeroed in on-premises having 761 lockers, three of which belonged to Raksha Bullion.

Pakistani boat with drugs worth ₹200 crore seized

AHMEDABAD

Gujarat's Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) in a joint operation with Indian Coast Guard has seized 40 Kg heroin worth ₹200 crore from a Pakistani fishing boat in the Arabian Sea off the Gujarat coast. The agencies have also arrested six crew members — Pakistani nationals who were aboard the boat that was six miles inside the Indian waters. The officials said the drugs were destined for Punjab.

France to see rise in intake of Indian students

NEW DELHI

France aims to increase the intake of students from India and take it to 20,000 students by 2025. "The objective assigned by President Emmanuel Macron is clear - 20,000 Indian students by 2025. For us to achieve this objective, we must attract, every year, 7,500 to 8,000 students. It is very ambitious," Catherine Colonna, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs said.

11 dead as mini-bus falls into gorge in J&K

JAMMU

Eleven people, including four women, died and 29 more were injured when an overcrowded mini-bus plunged into a deep gorge in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, officials said. The bus was on its way to Poonch from Gali Maidan when it met with the accident near Brari Nallah. The condition of nine of the 29 injured is critical, and six of them were airlifted to the Government Medical College and Hospital in Jammu for specialised treatment. PTI

PM may hold bilateral talks with Putin, Raisi

He will reach Samarkand today for the SCO summit

SUHASINI HAIDAR
SAMARKAND

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will land in Samarkand on Thursday ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit the next day, and is also expected to hold bilateral meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and the host Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

While diplomatic sources said Indian and Turkish officials were in touch over the possibility of a meeting with Turkish President Reccep Tayyip Erdogan, officials have indicated that a "structured" meeting between Mr. Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping or Pakistan's President Shahbaz Sharif was "unlikely" at present.

"It is up to the leaders of countries to decide which other leaders they wish to speak on the sidelines of the summit," said the Uzbekistan Coordinator of the SCO Rakhmatulla Nurimbetov, responding to a question from *The Hindu* about whether the host country was involved in facilitating the meetings. "But the Samarkand summit will be an opportunity for leaders who have not met since the COVID pandemic to spend time together," he said.

Narendra Modi

Officials also said it was unclear whether Mr. Modi would attend a dinner meant for leaders gathered for the SCO meet, who include Mr. Xi and Mr. Sharif.

While government sources declined to comment on whether the possibility of Mr. Modi missing the event indicated any "messaging", the event was expected to be the first time he would have come face-to-face with the two leaders, neither of whom he has had any direct contact with in the past few years.

On Friday, Mr. Modi will attend the SCO main summit of eight members, who are also expected to induct Iran as the ninth member of the grouping. A second meeting of all the invitee leaders, including the leaders of Turkey, Belarus, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Mongolia, will take place subsequently, after which all the leaders will hold bilateral meetings on the sidelines.

SCO fights 'anti-West dictators club' tag

It is not against any country or bloc: Indian envoy

SUHASINI HAIDAR
SAMARKAND

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is not a military bloc nor is it aimed at any one country or group, said officials here, underlining that this week's SCO Summit will bring together 15 regional "strongmen", including Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to Samarkand on Thursday.

NEWS ANALYSIS

This will be the first such summit with Mr. Putin since the Russian invasion in Ukraine, which has sparked sanctions by the U.S. and the EU and their partners, and the first time that Mr. Xi is stepping out for a multilateral conference since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Iranian counterpart Ebrahim Raisi in Samarkand. • REUTERS

Both Russia and China came in for severe criticism on different issues at the G-7 Summit in June, and the optics of the SCO this year will be that of a counter to the western coalition: as all countries particularly targeted by the West – Russia, Iran, China, Belarus and Turkey – find a common cause. In an opinion piece, the U.K.'s *Sunday Times* even dubbed the meet an "anti-West 'dictators' club'".

Asked if India, as the next Chair of the SCO, which will host the summit in 2023, was worried by the label, India's Ambassador to Uzbekistan Manish Prabhat said the perception was unfounded. "India is very clear that the SCO is not an organisation which is against any other bloc of countries or any other country. The SCO is a venture for constructive cooperation and peace and stability in the world. There could be concerns of different countries on various kinds of issues, but the forum is there to talk about these issues," he told presspersons ahead of the summit.

Clearly aware of the optics, Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev wrote in an editorial article this week that the SCO's non-bloc status was important.

Referring to the summit declaration that is being worked on, he said the "Samarkand Spirit" would launch a "new format" in a world where the present international system has begun to "falter".

The stipulation of "non-interference" in internal affairs will, no doubt, strike a chord with the leaders of the SCO who are accused of human rights violations and domestic anti-democratic moves in the West.

In particular, both Mr. Putin and Mr. Xi are likely to use the presence of the record number of 15 leaders coming to the conference as evidence that they have not been "isolated" on the world stage, despite the West slamming their actions in Ukraine and the Taiwan Strait, respectively.

India will look closely at the Samarkand declaration for language on terrorism and the listing of terror groups such as the LeT and the JeM that target India, as well as the mention of connectivity initiatives involving the Chabahar port which Mr. Modi is expected to push during his address.

Union govt. push for use of Hindi

Home Ministry to promote use of language for official work in foreign countries

VIJAITA SINGH
JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has written to the Ministry of External Affairs to promote the use of Hindi for official work in banks, public sector undertakings, embassies and other government offices located in foreign countries.

On August 30, the MHA asked the Ministry of External Affairs to provide a list of all the government institutions in foreign countries and constitute an Official Language Implementation Committee that would oversee the progress of Hindi in official work.

This was one of the several steps taken by the BJP government since 2014 to promote Hindi in government business.

In 2017, MHA accepted most of the recommendations contained in the 2011 report of a parliamentary standing committee on Hindi. Some of the recommendations were: option to write exams in Hindi, minimum knowledge of Hindi must for government jobs, 50% government advertisements in Hindi, railway tickets should be bilingual with Hindi being one of the languages and announcement at railway stations in "C" category (non-Hindi speaking) such as Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana and Kerala should be in Hindi.

In 2017, the Ministry said that the websites of all the Union Ministries and the offices under their control should be bilingual and the Hindi pages should also be compulsorily uploaded while updating the website.

Most government websites are bilingual now- Hindi and English. However, the websites of organisations such as the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), the Border Security Force (BSF) and even the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) open in Hindi by default.

After the Union Home Minister joined office in July 2019, additional staff was engaged to translate the files into Hindi. In the past two years, most press releases by the Union Ministries were released first in Hindi.

As per the MHA's April 26 notification, more than 80% staff in at least seven offices under the Ministry including the Directorate of Census Operations in West Bengal and the Delhi Police's Commissioner office had attained the working knowledge of Hindi.

Helpline 1098 will remain in service: govt.

'Integration with 112 will enhance services available'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The helpline for children, 1098, will continue to operate and its integration with national emergency number 112 will ensure interoperability and help in enhancing the scope of emergency services available to children, the government said on Wednesday.

"The Ministry would continue to operate the helpline 1098 in strict compliance with the provisions of Juvenile Justice Act 2015," the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) said.

The helpline 1098 used to be referred as Childline, which has now been referred as Children Helpline.

It also said that calls made to 1098 will land at Children Helpline of Ministry of WCD and the child would be provided necessary assistance as in the present. However, the back-end technological integration with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) 112 would "enhance the scope of access to emergency response services through voice call, SMS and be GPS and GIS enabled".

"This interoperability between the ERSS 112, and Children helpline 1098 will ensure that all distress calls for help for or by children if landing on 112 shall be transferred to the Children Helpline in real time and immediate response action will take place."

The Ministry said that there were certain limitations in the functioning of 1098, which it was attempting to address.

"The existing Children Helpline 1098 is limited to only 603 districts out of 750 plus districts in the country. The process of reaching out to a child takes about 60 minutes which is absolutely unsatisfactory. The call logs are maintained manually and lack interoperability with other services like police, fire, ambulance, leading to loss of precious time in distress situations," the statement added.

It will also have additional solutions such as voice calls, SMS service, intelligent call distribution, call conferencing, digital logging of all voice conversations, caller location identification and feedback mechanism.

Set up new regulator for medical devices, says panel

Current organisation is pharma-centric, ineffective, it says

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) is falling short in effectively regulating the medical devices industry, the department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health, headed by Rajya Sabha member Ram Gopal Yadav, has said. The organisation in its existing structure and expertise is more pharma-centric, it says.

Mr. Yadav presented the 138th report on the subject "Medical devices: regulations and control" to the Rajya Sabha earlier this week.

It has recommended more certified medical devices testing laboratories, robust IT-enabled feedback-driven post-market surveillance system and medical device registry, particularly for implants to ensure traceability of patients to assess performance of implants.

The committee has observed that the CDSCO was originally set up to regulate pharma, related segments and medical devices. It has recommended that the new legislation should set up a new regulator at different levels for regulating the medical devices industry.

The country has only 18 certified medical device testing laboratories that have been approved by the CDSCO and that is grossly insufficient keeping in view the size of the country, it said. The committee is of the considered opinion that having adequate common infrastructure including accredited laboratories in various regions of the country for standard testing will significantly encourage local manufacturers to get their products tested for standards and such measures undertaken will also help in reducing the cost of production which ultimately will improve the availability and affordability of medical devices in the market.

There is a dire need for developing a robust IT-enabled feedback-driven post-market surveillance system for medical devices to evaluate their efficiency.

"The committee recommends the Ministry to work in synergy with State governments and impart the necessary skills to the local medical device officers and also devise a mechanism to regularly designate State Medical personnel as Medical Device/Medical Device Testing Officers so that the mandate of the legislation can be implemented effectively," said the report.

It has recommended that the Ministry should allow the new regulator to involve institutions such as IISC, CSIR, DRDO and network of IITs to test medical devices for safety and efficacy.

It has highlighted the multiplicity of regulations, and said that a single-window clearing platform for application of licence for manufacturing, export, import shall integrate all these bodies involved in the regulation of medical devices.

Licensing system of devices

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The reconstituted National Medical Device Promotion Council (NMDPC) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, in its first meeting held on Wednesday, was updated on the steps taken up by Central Drugs Standards and Control Organisation (CDSCO) and the State Licensing Authorities (SLAs) for the smooth transition to licensing of Class A and B Medical Devices from October 1, 2022.

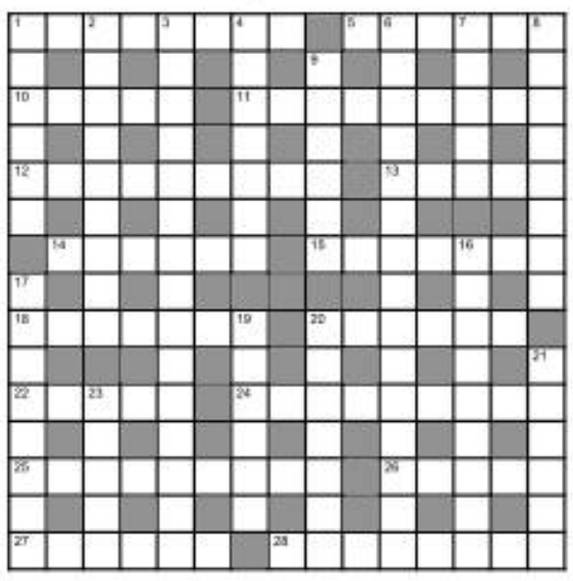
Another issue deliberated in the meeting was to reduce the regulatory burden of labelling requirements of medical devices.

TH CROSSWORD + 13661

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN



Across

1 Upheavals due to jerk holding power backup (5-3)
5 Arbitrary need? On the contrary, no (6)
10 Hope for getting a wife, best and prettiest finally (5)
11 Cherishing two speeches in nude (9)
12 Sixteen runs over, boundaries flayed by Broad (9)
13 Nothing outstanding, almost some eggs and fat (5)
14 She returns to feed; make it warm again (6)
15 Second, second thought to gain muscle (7)
18 Set to send a letter to military base, perhaps (7)
20 Enquire inside, procure a seal (6)
22 Emma halfway to get garden plant (5)
24 Small rabbit at green retreat, primarily enjoying the free program (9)
25 I'll go manage virtual treatment outside for a spine condition (9)
26 Compound has a bovine girdled every now and then (5)
27 Passage in a vessel on Nile flowing without current (6)
28 Each theologian outside dies at cul-de-sacs (4,4)

Down

1 Players domesticated inside to produce a reproductive organ (6)
2 Fit to have painters perhaps in flat (9)
3 Two teens dancing having a drink? An alliance perhaps (7,8)
4 Musician Ani in programme, left out for Premji in the beginning (7)
6 Perhaps synthetic hormone is mentioned in notice boards Ali put up (8,7)
7 Two times at the end of feast, wife provides water that's frozen (5)
8 Oneness sabotaged by the entry of player? Rubbish (8)
9 Trouble for medic in case (6)
16 Delight in procuring electric vehicle on promotion (9)
17 Team's comeback ends in grimace as there is disturbance in supply (5,3)
19 Bet drunk will return to get another drink (4-2)
20 Good boy, I hear is squint (4,3)
21 King gets tax break (6)
23 Fool of a man replaced with boy to procure chemical (5)

SUDOKU

	3	4						2
		2				9		7
			2	7				
					4	7	6	
4			9		3			1
	5	1	7					
				5	2			
1		8				5		
2						3	4	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 13660

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	5	9	8	7	1	4	3	2
4	8	7	3	9	2	6	1	5
2	1	3	6	5	4	7	9	8
7	2	5	4	1	6	3	8	9
1	3	4	9	8	5	2	7	6
9	6	8	2	3	7	5	4	1
8	9	2	5	4	3	1	6	7
5	4	1	7	6	8	9	2	3
3	7	6	1	2	9	8	5	4

FAITH

Sankhya philosophy

Kapila explains the quintessence of the Sankhya philosophy to Devahuti in the Bhagavata Purana. The Sankhya sastra expounded in the Bhagavata Purana and in the Bhagavad Gita lays emphasis on Bhakti and Jnana respectively, unlike the traditional Sankhya sastra which focuses on the technical enumeration of the tatvas in creation, pointed out Sri B. Sundarkumar in a discourse.

Krishna teaches the jnana by which one has to differentiate the atma from the gross and subtle bodies to enable the jivatmas gain equanimity with respect to their lives on earth. Kapila highlights bhakti as a means to salvation when he presents a synoptic view of the Sankhya philosophy and yoga. The crux of the human condition is the ambivalence present in the union of the atma with the body while it is also true that the atma is aligned to the Paramatma like the waves in the ocean. Kapila shows that the paths of yoga and bhakti are available for the jivatma bound by karma to the cycle of birth. The goal of liberation can be attained by the practice of either of these disciplines. Yoga consists of the practice of inward concentration along with the control of the senses and the mind.

The mind is the cause of both bondage and liberation. When attached to the gunas of Prakriti, it leads to bondage. When it begins to feel the impact of God in one's life, it leads to liberation. So the mind has to be trained to maintain an impartial stance towards the material world. The sense of I and Mine is very strong in all beings and motivates one to desire possessions, fame, name, etc, in life. But if one strives to transcend this, and understands that one's atma and not one's body is what has to be cared for, the priorities in one's life automatically are withdrawn from worldly concerns.

Zelensky visits retaken strategic city

Ukrainian President watched as his country's flag was hoisted in Izium; Russian shelling continues

ASSOCIATED PRESS
IZIUM

His hand on his heart, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky watched as his country's flag was hoisted on Wednesday above the recently recaptured city of Izium, a rare foray outside the capital that highlighted Moscow's retreat in the face of a lightning Ukrainian counteroffensive.

Russian forces left the war-scarred city last week as Kyiv's soldiers pressed a stunning advance that has reclaimed large swathes of territory in the country's northeastern Kharkiv region.

As Mr. Zelensky looked on and sang the national anthem, the Ukrainian flag was raised in front of the burned-out city hall building in the largely devastated town, where apartment buildings are blackened by fire and pockmarked by artillery strikes.

The centre of one residential building had collapsed, a gaping hole and piles of rubble where homes used to be.

Spirited show: Volodymyr Zelensky at the flag raising in the recaptured city of Izium in Kharkiv on Wednesday. • AFP

"The view is very shocking but it is not shocking for me," Mr. Zelensky said in brief comments to the press, "because we began to see the same pictures from Bucha, from the first de-occupied territories... the same destroyed buildings, killed people."

Prosecutors said they have found six bodies with traces of torture in recently retaken villages in the Kharkiv region.

"We have a terrible picture of what the occupiers did. ... Such cities as Balakliia, Izium are standing in the same row as Bucha, Borodyanka, Irpin," Prosecutor General Andriy Kostin said, listing the names of places where the Ukrainians have alleged Russian forces committed atrocities.

The head of the Kharkiv prosecutor's office, Oleksandr Filchakov, said bodies were found in Hrakove and Zaliznyche, villages around 60 km southeast of Kharkiv.

He said investigators were also learning of residents being killed and buried by Russian troops in another retaken town, Balakliia.

On the northern outskirts of Izium, the remains of Russian tanks and vehicles lay shattered along the road.

Mr. Zelensky said that as Ukrainian soldiers retook villages, "the life comes back."

In the wake of the recent gains, a new front line has started to emerge along the Oskil River that largely traces the eastern edge of the Kharkiv region, a Washington-based think tank said on Wednesday.

"Russian troops are unlikely to be strong enough to prevent further Ukrainian advances along the entire Oskil River because they do not appear to be receiving reinforcements, and Ukrainian troops will likely be able to exploit this weakness to resume the counteroffensive across the Oskil if they choose," the Institute for the Study of War said.

The counteroffensive has also left more weapons in Ukrainian hands.

Russian forces likely left behind dozens of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and other heavy weaponry as they fled Ukraine's advance in the east of the country, a Ukrainian think tank said on Wednesday. The Center for Defense Strategies said one single Russian unit that was around Izium left behind more than three dozen T-80 tanks and about as many infantry fighting vehicles.

In other areas, Russia continued its attacks, causing the death toll to keep rising in a war that has dragged on for nearly seven months.

Russian shelling of seven Ukrainian regions over the past 24 hours killed at least seven civilians and wounded 22 more, Ukraine's presidential office reported on Wednesday morning.

Peace process in peril after Armenia, Azerbaijan clash

Both countries have accused each other of violating a truce

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
YEREVAN

Armenia and Azerbaijan on Wednesday accused each other of violating a truce, after the worst clashes since a 2020 war put in doubt a halting peace process between the arch foes.

Russia announced on Tuesday that it had negotiated a ceasefire following fighting that killed at least 100 Azerbaijani and Armenian troops.

But on Wednesday, Armenia's Defence Ministry said "the enemy re-launched its attack by using artillery, mortar, large-calibre firearms in the directions of Jermuk, Verin Shorzha" on the border.

The Azerbaijani Defence Ministry said Armenian forces "violated the ceasefire... and shelled Azerbaijani positions near Kelbajar and Lachin."

Tuesday's escalation came as Yerevan's closest ally Moscow is distracted by its six-month-old war against Ukraine.

Coming to terms: A woman on Wednesday mourning an Azerbaijani soldier who was killed in recent clashes. • REUTERS

Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, said that "Definitely, tensions persisted" on Wednesday on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. He said a delegation of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) – a Moscow-led grouping of ex-Soviet republics – was due to Yerevan later on Wednesday.

On Tuesday, Armenia's security council asked for military help from Moscow, which is obligated under the treaty to defend Armenia in the event of foreign invasion.

'Putin had rejected Ukraine peace deal'

'As per the provisional agreement, Ukraine would have stayed out of NATO'

REUTERS
PARIS

Vladimir Putin's chief envoy on Ukraine told the Russian leader as the war began that he had struck a provisional deal with Kyiv that would satisfy Russia's demand that Ukraine stay out of NATO, but Mr. Putin rejected it and pressed ahead with his military campaign, according to three persons close to the Russian leadership.

The Ukrainian-born envoy, Dmitry Kozak, told Mr. Putin that he believed the deal he had hammered out removed the need for Russia to pursue a large-scale occupation of Ukraine, according to these sources.

Mr. Putin had repeatedly asserted prior to the war that NATO and its military infrastructure were creeping closer to Russia's borders by accepting new members from eastern Europe, and that the alliance was now preparing to bring Ukraine into its orbit too. Mr. Putin publicly said that represented an existential threat to Russia, forcing him to react.

Vladimir Putin

But, despite earlier backing the negotiations, Mr. Putin made it clear when presented with Mr. Kozak's deal that the concessions negotiated by his aide did not go far enough and that he had expanded his objectives to include annexing swathes of Ukrainian territory, the sources said. The upshot: the deal was dropped.

Kremlin's remarks

Asked about *Reuters* findings, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said: "That has absolutely no relation to reality. No such thing ever happened. It is absolutely incorrect information."

Mr. Kozak did not respond to requests for comment sent via the Kremlin.

Two of the three sources said a push to get the deal finalised occurred immediately after Russia's February 24 invasion. Within days, Mr. Kozak believed he had Ukraine's agreement to the main terms Russia had been seeking and recommended to Mr. Putin that he sign an agreement, the sources said.

Reuters was unable to verify independently that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy or senior officials in his government were committed to the deal.

Six months on from the start of the war, Mr. Kozak remains in his post as Kremlin deputy chief of staff. But he is no longer handling the Ukraine dossier, according to six sources.

U.S. weighs China sanctions over Taiwan

Beijing warns against underestimating its resolve in 'realising reunification'

REUTERS
TAIPEI

The U.S. is considering options for a sanctions package against China to deter it from invading Taiwan, with the European Union coming under diplomatic pressure from Taipei to do the same, according to sources familiar with the discussions.

The sources said the deliberations in Washington and Taipei's separate lobbying of EU envoys were both at an early stage – a response to fears of a Chinese invasion that have grown as military tensions scale new heights in the Taiwan Strait.

In both cases, the idea is to take sanctions beyond measures already taken in the West to restrict some trade and investment with China in sensitive technologies like computer chips and telecoms equipment.

The sources did not provide any details of what is being considered but the notion of sanctions on the world's second-largest economy and one of the global supply chain's biggest links raises questions of feasibility.

"The potential imposition of sanctions on China is a far more complex exercise than sanctions on Russia, given U.S. and allies' extensive entanglement with the Chinese economy," said Nazak Nikakhtar, a former senior U.S. Commerce Department official.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has vowed to bring Taiwan under Beijing's control and has not ruled out the use of force.

He is set to secure a third, five-year leadership term at a Communist Party congress next month. Taiwan's government strongly rejects China's sovereignty claims.

Responding to the news on the sanctions package, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson in Beijing warned against underestimating China.

"I want to emphasise that any country or person should not underestimate the strong determination and firm will of the Chinese government and people in defending national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and realising the reunification of the motherland," the spokesperson, Mao Ning, said on Wednesday.

Pakistan, Taliban resort to blame game

They accuse each other for clash that resulted in casualties

ASSOCIATED PRESS
ISLAMABAD

Afghan and Pakistani authorities blamed each other on Wednesday for an overnight clash at the border that caused casualties on both sides.

Taliban said on Wednesday that Afghan authorities tried to stop Pakistani forces from building a checkpoint close to the border in eastern Paktia province's Dand-e Patan district, but the Pakistani forces opened fire.

Pakistan's military said in a statement that three soldiers were killed in the country's northwest by militant fire from across the Afghan border on Tuesday night.

The attack hit a border security post in Kurram, a district in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Bilal Karimi, deputy spokesman for the Taliban's government said that by understanding, no military installations can be built near the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

But Pakistani forces tried to build a post. Some people approached them to talk and discuss the matter, when suddenly the Pakistani forces opened fire, Karimi said.

Kenyan leader sets forth ambitious climate plans

MOMBASA

Kenya's newly elected president William Ruto said that climate change will be key to the government's agenda and made an ambitious pledge to ramp up clean energy and phase out fossil fuels for electricity by 2030. He set forth the plan during his inauguration speech on Tuesday at Nairobi's Moi International Sports Complex. AP

Swedish PM Andersson concedes loss in election

REUTERS
STOCKHOLM

Sweden's Social Democrat Prime Minister, Magdalena Andersson, accepted defeat on Wednesday after a close-fought election, handing the four-party right-wing Opposition bloc victory and first go at forming a new government.

A handful of votes remain to be counted, but Ms. Andersson, who became Sweden's first woman Prime Minister last year said the results showed the right bloc had won.

Israel soldier among three killed in fights

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JENIN

An Israeli soldier and two Palestinians were killed in pre-dawn clashes on Wednesday near Jenin in the occupied West Bank.

Israel's army said a Major "was killed overnight during operational activity adjacent to the Gilboa Crossing during an exchange of fire with Palestinian terrorists".

The Palestinian Health Ministry confirmed "the martyrdom of the two young men".

The Palestinians killed were named as Ahmed Ayman Ibrahim Abed, 23, and Abdul Rahman Hani Subhi Abed, 22. A Palestinian security source said that Ahmed Abed was a serving intelligence officer of the Palestinian security services in the West Bank city of Qalqiliya.

Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM)
A Government of Karnataka Initiative

CFP No. 01/2022-23 dated 13 Sep 2022

CALL FOR PROPOSAL
ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಗಾಗಿ ಕರೆ

KDEM, the implementation agency, calls for proposals from firm/consortia/SPVs of enterprises to establish and operationalize the Global Emerging Technology Design Center (GETDC) in Belagavi. Covering sectors like Aerospace & Defence, Auto, Auto Components & EV, Biotechnology (Bt), Pharma & Medical Devices, Semiconductors, Telecom, ESDM, Software Products.

The interested firms/consortia/SPVs are requested to visit KDEM website www.karnatakadigital.in and download the details for submission of the proposal. Address all proposal emails to gm.admin@karnatakadigital.in with subject line: Proposal - Global Emerging Technology Design Center (GETDC). The deadline for submission is before 3:00 PM on Wednesday 05 October 2022.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ, ಪಶು ಹಾಗು ಮೀನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ,
ನಂದಿನಗರ, ಅಂಚೆ ಪೆಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 6, ಬೀದರ-585 226

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕುಸ/ಕೃವಿ/ಪಸಂವಿ/ಪ್ರಸೇಶ/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13-09-2022

ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ವಿಷಯ: ಪಶುಸಂಗೋಪನಾ ಪಾಲಿಟೆಕ್ನಿಕ್, ಡಿಪ್ಲೋಮಾಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 2022-23ನೇ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿದಿರುವ ಸೀಟುಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಕುರಿತು.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ, ಪಶು ಹಾಗೂ ಮೀನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಬೀದರನ ಅಂಗ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಾದ ಐದು(5) ಪಶು ಸಂಗೋಪನಾ ಪಾಲಿಟೆಕ್ನಿಕ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿದಿರುವ 41 ಸೀಟುಗಳನ್ನು ಭರ್ತಿಮಾಡಲು ನೇರ ಸಂದರ್ಶನವನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **26.09.2022** ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **09.30** ಘಂಟೆಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ, ಪಶು ಹಾಗೂ ಮೀನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ನಂದಿನಗರ, ಬೀದರ-585 226 ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.kvafsu.edu.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಆದೇಶದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ
ಸಹಿ/-
ಎಸ್. ನಮಸಂಕರ್, ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ
ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-2/F-71(1)/22-23/6058-59 Dt: 14.09.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

KPTCL invites bid against enquiry no: **KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(N)/ EE(O)/AEE-2/21-22/EPR-23/CALL-6 Dtd: 13.12.2021** for the work of "**Replacement of M/s.CGL make 220kV incoming circuit breaker by M/s.Siemens make breaker on Partial Turnkey Basis of 220kV Puttenahalli-Peenya line, 220kV Hoody-Manyatha line and 100MVA Transformer-1 HV breaker at 220/66/11kV Hebbal substation in TL&SS Division Hebbal, KPTCL, Bengaluru**", pertaining to BMAZ North Circle, Bengaluru.

The detailed Notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on or after **16.09.2022** to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyper Link 'e procurement-KPTCL' or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), Tr(M.), BMAZ North Circle, KPTCL, Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560009. Phone: 22386686-85

ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ-ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬಂಡಿಮೋಟ್, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ-583101
ಇಮೇಲ್- apmcballari@gmail.com,
ದೂ:08392-250442 ಫಾಕ್ಸ್:08392-250890

ಸಂ: ಕೃಉಮಾಸ/ಬ/ಆಫೀ/651/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ:14-09-2022.

ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿಯಿಂದ ಭೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ 2022-23 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಯಮಗಳು 1999-2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ 1, 2, ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ 5 ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನ ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ 3, 4, ಮತ್ತು 6 ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಒಂದು-ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಧರವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

1. APMC/2022-23/OW/WORK_Indent No 5212
2. APMC/2022-23/OW/WORK_Indent No 5214
3. APMC/2022-23/OW/WORK_Indent No 5216
4. APMC/2022-23/OW/WORK_Indent No5217
5. APMC/2022-23/OW/WORK_Indent No5219
6. APMC/2022-23/OW/WORK_Indent No 5218

01.ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **29-09-2022** ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4:30** ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ. 02. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **01-10-2022** ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ **4:00** ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪರತ್ತುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ರಜಾ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಮೇಲೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿರುವ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ 080-22485867 ಮತ್ತು ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಕೃ.ಉ.ಮಾ.ಸ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ **08392 250890** ರವರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿದ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ನೋಡುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ಕೃ.ಉ.ಮಾ.ಸ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ
ಸಹಿ/- ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಕೃ.ಉ.ಮಾ.ಸ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ.
ಡಿಪಿಆರ್/ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ/444/ಎಂಸಿವಿ/2022-23

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL JAISALMER
Ref/MBJ/Dev/2022-23/1814 Date: 08.09.2022

NOTICE INVITING BIDS NO. 14/2022-23
NIB CODE NO. DLB2223A4656

Online Proposals are invited on behalf of Governor of Rajasthan by Municipal Council Jaisalmer from the reputed, experienced and technically eligible contractors for **"Work of providing, laying and jointing of various size of DI Pipe line for distribution system at Laxmi Chand Sawal and Advocate Colony (Zone-3A) under UWSS Jaisalmer".** The further detailed bid conditions can be downloaded from website http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in or http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in

UBN NO. DLB2223WSOB15369 **Chairman & Commissioner**
Raj.Samwad/C/7610/2022-2023 **Municipal Council Jaisalmer**

JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED
Office of The Superintending Engineer (TW),
Old Power House Premises, Near Ram Mandir,
Jaipur-302006, TELE FAX NO.0141-2201022
Regd. Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur 302005

E- TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are hereby invited in two parts (Techno-commercial bid and Price bid) from eligible bidders for Supply, erection, installation, testing and commissioning of material/ equipment for the various 33 KV & 11 KV deposit works on Lattice Tower on turnkey basis under Jhalawar Circle of Jaipur Discom against TN-524. Participating bidders can download complete set of bidding documents from e-procurement portal **http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** from 15.09.2022 (3:00 PM) onwards. Last Date/Time for receipt of online bids through e-procurement portal is 10.10.2022 up to 05:00 PM. For further details regarding Works, Tender Notifications & Specifications please visit website **http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, **http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** & **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl**

UBN : VVN2223WSOB00323
JPR 2741 (2022) **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (TW)**
Raj.samwad/C/22/7858 **For Electricity Complaints Toll Free No. 1800 180 6507**

Office of Project Director
RUIDP Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project
(A unit of RUDSICO)
AVS Building, Jawahar Circle, JLN Marg, Jaipur - 302017
Tel No.: 0141-2721966, Fax No.: 0141-2721919
Email: mail.ruidp@rajasthan.gov.in, website: www.ruidp.rajasthan.gov.in

Invitation for Bids No: RSTDSP/OCB/NTL/28

Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project (RSTDSP) - Additional Financing
Contract Package Number & Name: RSTDSP/4towns/DR/01: Cluster package of 4 towns in 2 Lots:
(i) Lot-01: - Providing drainage network and Construction of drainage pumping station and all allied works at Nawalgarh and Ratangarh RSTDSP/NAW-RAT/DR/01.
(ii) Lot-02: - Construction of Works of drainage system and all allied works at Bundi and Bhawanimandi RSTDSP/BUN-BHM/DR/01.
Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project (RUIDP) invites online bids on e-proc website from eligible bidders for the contract package named above. Online bidding is invited under Open Competitive Bidding (OCB) - National procedure of ADB which is open to all bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
1. Bid document would be available at eproc website www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in starting from 09th September, 2022. Deadline for bid submission is 15:00 hours on 12th October, 2022
2. Pre-bid Meeting will be held at 15:00 hours on 16th September, 2022. All the prospective bidders are advised to participate in the Pre-bid meeting.
3. Any addendum, clarification to the bidder's queries and corrigendum etc. will be published on the eproc websites and will not be published in Newspapers.
4. Bidders may contact Additional Project Director, RUIDP (0141-2548404), Jaipur for any information on bidding process.

NIB Code : UID2223A0015, UBN : UID2223WSOB00015
Raj.Samwad/C/7613/2022-23 **Addl. Project Director**

NATIONAL URBAN HEALTH MISSION
BENGALURU URBAN HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY(R)
BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Health Officer(GH), Annexe-3 Building, 3rd Floor, BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002.

No.: CPMO/NUHM/PR/23/2022-23 Date:14.09.2022

NOTIFICATION

Notifications published on 31.08.2021, 30.10.2021, 2.11.2021, for various vacancies under NUHM, NTEP, RCH Program of National Health Mission and Walk-in process was carried out on the basis of Merit Cum Roster for the announced candidates. Provisional shortlist of the selected candidates as per the notification has been published on the BBMP website **(https://bbmp.gov.in)**. If there is any objections to any of the posts in the said provisional shortlist, is requested to submit in writing, by post (register post) to The Office of Urban Planning Management Officer, #304, Annexure-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002 or to the e-mail address **cpmobbmp@gmail.com** within 07 working days of publication of this notice.

Sd/- Chief Health Officer (GH).

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

MARKET WATCH

	14-09-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	60,347	-0.37
US Dollar	79.52	-0.44
Gold	50,616	-0.56
Brent oil	94.99	2.78

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	947.85	-0.95
Apollo Hosp	4427.60	-62.50
Asian Paints	3438.95	16.75
Axis Bank	803.05	-2.50
Bajaj Auto	3850.25	-16.25
Bajaj Finserv	1805.35	20.60
Bajaj Finance	7483.45	80.00
Bharti Airtel	783.35	-0.90
BPCL	336.15	-4.90
Britannia Ind	3747.00	-10.70
Cipla	1059.95	1.05
Coal India	231.95	0.65
Divis Lab	3668.55	0.95
Dr Reddys Lab	4214.15	-38.75
Eicher Motors	3541.80	19.80
Grasim Ind	1782.80	-6.85
HCL Tech	932.00	-23.40
HDFC	2453.35	1.85
HDFC Bank	1528.65	15.55
HDFC Life	576.35	-10.70
Hero MotoCorp	2851.50	-18.50
Hindalco	442.00	5.35
Hind Unilever	2571.40	-15.20
ICICI Bank	918.10	8.10
Indusind Bank	1215.75	51.95
Infosys	1475.40	-69.55
ITC	335.35	0.95
JSW Steel	692.85	1.80
Kotak Bank	1954.70	31.30
L&T	1953.90	-37.45
M&M	1298.05	-1.80
Maruti Suzuki	8967.20	40.70
Nestle India Ltd.	19108.75	45.10
NTPC	172.35	4.95
ONGC	133.20	-0.70
PowerGrid Corp	232.55	5.75
Reliance Ind	2588.35	-31.40
SBI Life	1303.30	-21.10
State Bank	571.75	13.75
Shree Cement	24131.35	199.05
Sun Pharma	883.75	-6.40
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	840.25	-8.75
Tata Motors	450.20	-6.60
Tata Steel	109.15	1.40
TCS	3120.40	-108.95
Tech Mahindra	1114.70	-32.75
Titan	2700.60	-4.95
UltraTech Cement	6875.75	-20.55
UPL	748.30	-7.40
Wipro	416.30	-6.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 14

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.24	79.56
Euro	79.33	79.65
British Pound	91.60	91.98
Japanese Yen (100)	55.35	55.57
Chinese Yuan	11.39	11.44
Swiss Franc	82.50	82.84
Singapore Dollar	56.45	56.69
Canadian Dollar	60.18	60.42
Malaysian Ringitt	17.50	17.58
Australian Dollar	53.31	53.53

Source: Indian Bank

IN BRIEF

Bank of Baroda raises rates on deposits

MUMBAI

Bank of Baroda has increased interest rates on deposits below ₹2 crore by 0.20%. The new interest rates had come into effect since Tuesday, the bank said. The one year tenure domestic and NRO interest rate has been increased to 5.50% from 5.30% earlier.

Byju's FY21 loss widens to ₹4,588 crore

NEW DELHI

Byju's booked a loss of ₹4,588 crore for FY21 as the nation's most valuable start-up released audited financial statements after months of delay. The loss widened from ₹231.69 crore in 2019-20. Revenue in FY21 dropped to ₹2,428 crore from ₹2,511 crore in FY20. Byju's said the losses widened in FY21 mainly on deferment of some revenue and losses incurred from WhiteHat Jr. PTI

DHL Supply Chain to invest €500 mn in India

MUMBAI

DHL Supply Chain (DHL), a contract logistics solutions provider, said it will invest €500 million in India over five years to significantly grow warehousing capacity, workforce and sustainability initiatives. While warehousing space will rise by 12 million square feet to reach about 22 million square feet by 2026, DHL would double its workforce in India to about 25,000 by 2026.

Billionaire VC, DBS ally to help start-ups

CHENNAI

Billionaire Venture Incubation (BVI) has tied up with DBS Bank to facilitate investment in start-ups in the form of equity. The joint venture will earmark about $200 million in collaboration with DBS Bank to extend capital for about 150 start-ups in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra, and later to northern parts of the country, Subhash Sukumar, Board Member, BVI, said.

Wholesale inflation slowed to an 11-month low at 12.4% in Aug.

Primary food article prices harden, other segments report milder inflation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Inflation based on the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) eased in August to the slowest pace since last September at 12.4%, from 13.9% in July, with food being the sole segment to report faster price gains at 9.93% as it rebounded from July's three-month low of 9.41%.

August's reading, however, marks the 17th straight month when wholesale inflation has exceeded 10%. Among the WPI constituents, manufactured products inflation eased to 7.5%, while fuel and power inflation corrected from 43.8% in July to 33.7%. Primary article inflation slowed slightly to 14.9%, from July's 15%.

Pricier food: Primary food inflation sped to 12.4% led by a sequential uptick in cereals, pulses and spices. • KAMAL NARANG

Within food items, primary food inflation quickened to 12.4%, from 10.8% in July, led by a broad-based sequential uptick across cereals, pulses, vegetables, fruits, condiments and spices and other food articles, rating agency ICRA said in a note.

Price rise in vegetables sped to 22.3%, from 18.3% in July, and higher wheat and rice prices pushed cereals inflation to 11.8%, from 9.8%. Fruits saw inflation of 31.7%.

"Wholesale inflation eased for a third straight month... with an increase in food inflation offset by easing of other commodity prices including crude oil," said Rajani Sinha, chief economist of CARE Ratings.

The Office of the Economic Advisor, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, revised June's WPI inflation to 16.2%, from 15.2% estimated earlier.

"It remains to be seen if firms will pass on the benefit to final consumers. If not, bringing retail inflation within the target range could take even longer," Ms. Sinha said.

Goldman cuts Infosys, TCS to sell on outlook

REUTERS
BENGALURU

Goldman Sachs downgraded top Indian IT service providers Tata Consultancy Services and Infosys to 'sell,' from 'buy,' citing a potential slowdown in dollar revenue growth in the face of impending macroeconomic stress.

"We believe a slowdown in discretionary IT services spend will be quite material and something not yet completely reflected in the street's double-digit revenue growth forecast for the industry for FY24," Goldman analysts said.

The IT index has been one of the worst-hit sectors, falling more than 27% so far this year, underperforming benchmark Nifty 50 index, which is up 4%.

Exports dip to a 9-month low after growth slows

Imports jumped 37.3% to $61.9 billion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India's merchandise exports grew 1.6% in August to $33.92 billion, still a nine-month low, while imports jumped 37.3% from August 2021 levels to $61.9 billion.

The trade deficit of $27.98 billion, while lower than the $28.7 billion estimated earlier this month, was, however, almost 139% higher than a year earlier and still the second-highest on record after July's $30 billion.

Imports were above $60 billion for a sixth straight month, with coal imports more than doubling to exceed $4.5 billion while petroleum imports almost doubled to $17.7 billion.

Gold imports shrank 46.7% to $3.5 billion but silver imports saw an alarming 4,318% jump from a mere $15.5 million last year to $684.3 million this August.

On the exports front, engineering goods, one of the fastest growing sectors in recent months, logged a 14.2% dip in shipments to just over $8.2 billion. Several employment-intensive sectors, including handicrafts and handlooms, carpets, gems and jewellery and ready-made garments reported declines in exports.

Rating firm Crisil said the export growth in July and August reflect 'a steep fall' from the 27% increase in the first quarter and attributed the slide to two reasons.

"One, India's major exports destinations – the United States, United Kingdom and European Union – are battling economic slowdown on account of supply disruptions, high energy prices and monetary tightening. Whereas China's growth is slowing due to tough Covid restrictions and the property market crisis. Two, the low base effect of the previous year is wearing off," it emphasised in a note.

'Rupee not much help'

"Contrary to general perception, the rupee's 8.1% depreciation over the past year (as on September 7) is not providing much competitiveness for exports as currencies of most countries are depreciating more steeply," the Federation of Indian Exporters' Organisations (FIEO) said.

"Therefore, there is a need to provide some other fiscal or non-fiscal support to help exports in this scenario," FIEO emphasised.

"The continued weakness in exports amid heightened risks to global growth prospects is concerning," said Rajani Sinha, chief economist at CARE Ratings.. "The narrowing of trade deficit in August to $28 billion from a record high of $30 billion in the previous month is mainly due to a sequential fall in imports rather than the ideal scenario of higher export growth relative to imports," she added.

Earlier this month, Commerce Secretary B.V.R. Subrahmanyam had said that though exporters' order books were full, there was a growing tendency among global buyers to seek deferrals in shipments. He had also cited the steps taken to rein in inflation, such as export curbs on wheat, rice and atta, as deterrents to outbound trade.

Telecom service quality norms may get tighter

Vaishnaw seeks better QoS amid reforms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Wednesday assured the sector of more reforms in the offing, but asserted that the industry too would have to do its bit and reciprocate by improving service quality "significantly".

He indicated that service quality parameters would be significantly increased, and that the Telecom Department would approach the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in this regard.

"I will be requesting Department [Telecom Department] to send a new consultation paper to TRAI for significantly increasing the quality of service parameters almost making it 3x or 4x of what it is today," Mr. Vaishnaw said at an event organised by the Digital Infrastructure Providers Association (DIPA).

> **Initiatives cannot be one-sided, and the equation has to be reciprocal**

The Minister exhorted the industry including telecom operators and infrastructure providers to move "full steam ahead" on improving quality of services in the country, now that a slew of reforms had been announced and more were lined up.

The Minister said initiatives cannot be one-sided, and the equation had to be "reciprocal."

Auto-part makers must invest more in EV, fuel R&D: Gadkari

Research required to reduce imports, says the Minister

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA
NEW DELHI

The government on Wednesday exhorted the auto component industry to invest some of its profit into research in technologies such as electric vehicles (EVs) and alternative fuels as the country is facing challenges such as pollution following the use of diesel and petrol.

Addressing the annual convention of Automotive Component Manufacturers Association, Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari also urged the industry to focus on increasing localisation and making roads safer.

"Pollution is a big concern... because of diesel and petrol, we are facing a lot of problems. 35% of pollution is due to fossil fuels... so, I appeal to the automobile industry to start flex fuel in India," Mr. Gadkari said.

Nitin Gadkari

"There are a lot of imports... industry can accept the challenge on how to reduce imports... for this you need research... invest some of your profits in futuristic research. EVs, particularly two-wheelers... I feel that within two years the cost of a [ICE] two-wheeler and electric two-wheeler will be the same," the Minister said.

At a separate session, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal warned that the government would take a serious view of any automobile maker pressurising component manufacturers to import from preferred suppliers instead of localising them.

G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant said India must target 100% electrification of two- and three-wheelers in the next four years as these segments would lead the country's 'green-mobility revolution'.

Munoth set for Li-ion cell trial production

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Munoth Industries Ltd. (MIL) has announced pre-production of lithium ion cells for the consumer electronics segment at its Tirupati unit.

"We will start pre-production on September 16," said vice chairman Jaswant Munoth. "The commercial production and formal opening... is slated for mid-October," he added.

"It is the first lithium ion cell manufacturing facility, developed and operated by an Indian firm," he said.

"In the first phase, we will invest ₹165 crore to produce 20,000 cells of 10Ah capacity daily," he added. The trial run will be inaugurated by Union Minister of State for IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday.

India set to take pole in digital engineering: study

'DE may add up to 60% to ER&D net'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

India's digital engineering (DE) space is growing rapidly and is expected to contribute 50% to 60% of the country's overall ER&D (engineering, research and development) revenue in the coming years, according to a report jointly released by Nasscom and Deloitte.

Digital platforms and tools have been increasingly reshaping connections between businesses, clients, employees and employers in recent years, resulting in a consistent increase in investments in DE endeavours, as per the report.

"India is advancing into the fourth industrial revolution with an optimistic Digital Transformation (DE) revenue amounting to 50-60% in overall ER&D revenues in the coming years," said Debjani Ghosh, President, Nasscom.

Debjani Ghosh

"India is well positioned to take the pole position in DE domain," said Keerthi Kumar, Partner, Deloitte India. DE would play a crucial role in government and industry alike, whether it was for planning, decision making, discovering latest trends or product creation.

Rice shipments may fall as levy turns exports pricier

Trade sees 5 million-tonne slide

REUTERS
MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

India's rice exports could fall by about a quarter this year as New Delhi's restrictions force buyers to switch to rival suppliers which are offering the grain at a cheaper price, trade and industry officials said.

Late last week, the world's biggest exporter of the grain banned shipments of broken rice and imposed a 20% duty on exports of various other grades as the country tries to boost supplies and calm prices after below-average monsoon rainfall curtailed planting.

"The duty has made Indian rice expensive," B.V. Krishna Rao, president of The Rice Exporters Association told Reuters.

"Exports would drop by at least 5 million tonnes."

That would leave exports this year at about 16.2 million tonnes. Rice shipments reached a record 21.2 million tonnes in the 2021/22 fiscal year,.

"We expect shipments to fall sharply in the coming months due to the recent policy decisions," said Dev Garg, the director of ViExport, a New Delhi-based exporter. Thailand, Vietnam and other suppliers have raised prices of white rice after India imposed curbs the last week.

'India may ship 5 MT sugar in first tranche'

REUTERS
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

India is poised to allow 5 million tonnes (MT) of sugar exports in the first tranche for the new marketing year beginning October, two government sources said on Wednesday.

"The permission to export 5 MT of sugar is expected in the coming weeks and once we have a better sense about next sugar year's production, we could allow another 3 to 5 MT for exports," said one of the sources who did not wish to be named.

"Although it is a little early to get a clear idea about next year's production, early estimates suggest sugar output in 2022-23 would hover around this year's record 36 MT, the official said.

GOVERNMENT OF KARANATAKA
Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department. Office of the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal-583231
E-Mail:eemidnkst@rediffmail.com, P&F.No.08539:220054
No:EE/MI&GWDD/Koppal/PB/TP/2022-23/2478 Dated:12.09.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers registered civil contractors as per standard bid documents KW-4 on E-procurement portal for 1 no of works pertaining to Koppal district. The amount put to tender for the mentioned works varies from Rs. 132.61 Lakhs . The tenderers may submit tenders for the mentioned work through E-procurement portal only. **Two cover** tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTTP act shall be followed.

For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours and all information regarding tenders can be had from website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address on or after 14-09-2022. Last date & time for receipt of tender is 26-09-2022 time 17.30 hours, pre bid meeting will be held on 21-09-2022 time 11.00 hours at this office, date & time for opening of technical bid 28-09-2022 time 11.00 hours date and time for opening of financial bid 30.09.2022 time 11.00 hours (If technical bid sanction is accorded by the competent authority).

Sd/-Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/324/MCA/2022-23

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(SHARAVATHY HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

No.: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK_INDENT 12403/Call-3 Date: 09.09.2022

ABSTRACT 'e' TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through e-procurement Portal Only)

Bids are invited through GoK e-Procurement portal: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** from the reputed Contractor/agency/firm with proven track record of successful completion of similar works, having adequate financial resources, past experience for the work of **Supply and erection of shaft seal, guide vane drum seal and guide vane triangular shape seal for U-1 at Linganamakki Dam Power House.** EMD: **Rs. 44,000/-.** Last date & time for on-line submission of tenders: **22.09.2022 upto 16:30Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bid: **24.09.2022 at 16:30Hrs.** Further information if required can be obtained from the office of the **Executive Engineer(O&M), LDPH, KPCL, Linganamakki - 577421, Sagar Taluk, Shivamogga District, Karnataka.** Ph No.: **08186 - 240345.**

District Office, Minority Welfare Department, Tumkur
Opposite P.W.D Quartes Eidga Mohalla Main Road Tumakuru- 572102 Website:gokdom.karnataka.gov.in/tumkur. E-mail:domtumkur@gmail.com.
Sl.No.MWD/T/FOOD/CR-19/2022-23 Date: 12.09.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tumakuru Minority Welfare Department, invites Tumakuru subdivision and madhugiri subdivision short term tender for providing food, vegetables, and other items to Minority pre/post matric hostels, Minority Morarji Desai Residential Schools/ Colleges.

(1) Value of work in Rs in Tumkur subdivision-230.66 lakhs and madhugiri subdivision- **198.14** Bid security in Rs in Tumkur subdivision lakhs-**3.46 lakhs and** madhugiri subdivision- **2.97 (2)** Bid form available from **13.09.2022 (3)** Last date for bid submission **12.10.2022.**

The work details can be obtained from e-procurement website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in from **13.09.2022** to **12.10.2022** for more information contact District Officer, Minority Welfare Department, Tumkur-572102.(0816-2273724)

Sd/- Javid.K.Karangi, District Officer, Minority Welfare Department, Tumkur

DIPR/TUM/505/MCA/2019-20

Karnataka Veterinary, Animal & Fisheries Sciences University
P.B. No. 6, Nandinagar, Bidar-585 226, Karnataka

No.R/UG-Admn/FN/NRI/NRI's-C/NRI-S/2022-23/ Date: 13.09.2022

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Admission to **B.V.Sc. & A. H., B.Tech (D.Tech) and B.F.Sc.,** Undergraduate Degree Programme under Foreign Nationals /Non-Resident Indian /Non-Resident Indian Children /Non-Resident Indian Sponsored Candidates at KVAFSU, Bidar for the Academic Year 2022-2023.

Online applications in the prescribed proforma are invited from the eligible **Foreign Nationals (FN), Non-Resident Indian (NRI), Non-Resident Indian Children (NRI's-C) and Non-Resident Indian Sponsored Candidates (NRI-S)** for admission to B.V.Sc. & A.H., B.Tech (D.Tech) & B.F.Sc., degree programmes at KVAFSU, Bidar for the academic year 2022-2023.

The Candidates who desirous to apply for multiple degree programmes must submit separate application along with prescribed application fee for each of such applications payable in Indian Rupees of 10,000/- only.

Application Fee to be paid (ONLINE) at the time of submission of the ONLINE application. The submission of ONLINE application will be opened from 15.09.2022 to 20.10.2022 (IST 23:59:59 midnight).

For more details please visit the University website: **www.kvafsu.edu.in**

By order
Sd/-
(S.SIVASANKAR, IFS)
REGISTRAR
KVAFSU, Bidar

RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DIVISION, CHIKMAGALUR.

Tender Notice No.: 7/2022-23 Dtd: 09.09.2022

Notice Inviting Tender

Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur invites Tender through e-procurement related to works of Chikkamagaluru Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District. Details regarding undertaking or having implemented work of Max. Amount Rs. 85.13 lakhs should be attached as per Standard Tender Document-KW-1, 2 & 4. Contract can be awarded to contracors only if they have the minimum qualifications as mentioned in Act 1.Tender for works should be submitted from 09.09.2022 to 16.09.2022 up to 5.30 PM. Tender will be opened on 17.09.2022 at 5.31 PM. In case this day is a holiday the next day will be considered. Notification can be read on www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur

DIPR/ckm/No.139/mca/22-23/908

Smriti dazzles as India levels series in style

Sneh's incisive spell restricts England to 142 for six in the second T20I before the visiting batters hold sway

INDIA IN ENG

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DERBY

Opener Smriti Mandhana hit a stroke-filled unbeaten 79, after off-spinner Sneh Rana had snared three wickets, to hand India women a comprehensive eight-wicket win over England in the second T20I and level the series 1-1 here.

England's decision to bat on Tuesday night backfired as the Indian bowlers raised their performance by a notch to reduce the hosts to 54 for five within 10 overs.

Stellar display: Smriti was at her fluent best, hitting 13 boundaries. • GETTY IMAGES

Tough going

England found the going tough in the initial overs, losing wickets at regular intervals before teenager Freya Kemp (51 n.o., 37b, 3x4, 3x6) and Maia Bouchier (34, 26b, 4x4) added 65 for the sixth wicket.

But Sneh broke the partnership, taking the wicket of Bouchier stumped by Richa Ghosh in the 18th over.

Kemp, however, went after the bowlers. In the company of Sophie Ecclestone, she smashed 23 runs off the remaining 15 balls to take England to 142 for six and give the bowlers something to defend.

Sneh was the wrecker-in-chief for India, returning with figures of three for 24 in her four overs. Renuka Singh (one for 30) and Deepti Sharma (one for 21) provided able support.

India began its chase in aggressive fashion, with Smriti (79 n.o., 53b, 13x4) and Shafali Verma (20, 17b, 4x4) adding 55 runs in the first six overs.

Ecclestone got the breakthrough for England when she had Shafali caught and bowled.

After D. Hemalatha fell cheaply, skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (29 n.o., 22b, 4x4) joined her deputy Smriti. The duo stitched together an unbeaten stand of 69 for the third wicket as India reached the target in 16.4 overs.

Smriti stroked three boundaries off Freya Davies in the 17th over as the Women in Blue raced to the finish.

England had won the first match by nine wickets. The third T20 of the three-match series will be played in Bristol on Thursday.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND

Sophia Dunkley st. Richa b Deepti 5 *(5b, 1x4)*, Danni Wyatt c Sneh b Renuka 6 *(5b, 1x4)*, Alice Capsey run out 4 *(6b)*, Bryony Smith c Radha b Sneh 16 *(15b, 2x4)*, Amy Jones b Sneh 17 *(20b, 2x4)*, Maia Bouchier st. Richa b Sneh 34 *(26b, 4x4)*, Freya Kemp (not out) 51 *(37b, 3x4, 3x6)*, Sophie Ecclestone (not out) 7 *(6b, 1x4)*; Extras (w-2): 2; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 142.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-9 (Dunkley, 1.1 overs), 2-13 (Wyatt, 2.1), 3-16 (Capsey, 2.6), 4-48 (Smith, 7.5), 5-54 (Jones, 9.3), 6-119 (Bouchier, 17.3).

INDIA BOWLING

Renuka 4-0-30-1, Deepti 4-0-21-1, Radha 4-0-36-0, Sneh 4-0-24-3, Pooja 4-0-31-0.

INDIA

Shafali Verma c & b Ecclestone 20 *(17b, 4x4)*, Smriti Mandhana (not out) 79 *(53b, 13x4)*, D. Hemalatha b Davies 9 *(10b, 1x4)*, Harmanpreet Kaur (not out) 29 *(22b, 4x4)*; Extras (w-7, nb-2): 9; Total (for two wkts. in 16.4 overs): 146.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-55 (Shafali, 5.6), 2-77 (Hemalatha, 8.4).

ENGLAND BOWLING

Bell 4-0-23-0, Davies 3.4-0-30-1, Smith 1-0-11-0, Kemp 1-0-19-0, Ecclestone 3-0-22-1, Glenn 3-0-28-0, Capsey 1-0-13-0.

Toss: England.

Player-of-the-Match: Smriti.

India won by eight wickets with 20 balls remaining to level the three-match series 1-1.

Third and final T20I: September 15 (Thursday), Bristol, 11 p.m. IST.

Shah, Ganguly allowed to continue as office-bearers

Former could take over as president

AMOL KARHADKAR
MUMBAI

Decks have been cleared for the Board of Control for Cricket in India's hierarchy to continue for another term, following the Supreme Court further relaxing its previous order on the administrative reforms.

On Wednesday, the apex court, besides various other relaxations, allowed an administrator to be elected for two consecutive terms in the BCCI on the back of two successive terms in his/her respective State association.

Sourav Ganguly and Jay Shah can, therefore, continue in their posts of president and secretary respectively. The BCCI is likely to convene the annual general meeting in October, just in time before the three-year term of the two expires on October 23.

The Hindu understands that Shah, who is also the Asian Cricket Council president, is the front-runner to replace Ganguly as the BCCI chief.

Shah and Ganguly... the duo at the top. • FILE PHOTO: VIVEK BENDRE

Ganguly, only the second Indian captain to head the BCCI, is likely to be nominated as a Director in the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Arun Dhumal, the incumbent treasurer, is a prime contender to take over as the next secretary.

With the Court also doing away with the rule that prevents "public servants" from holding posts in the BCCI, vice-president Rajeev Shukla, a Rajya Sabha member, will also be in the fray for an office-bearer's post.

Robin Uthappa retires from all forms of Indian cricket

'It has been the greatest honour to represent my country and my State Karnataka'

ASHWIN ACHAL
BENGALURU

World Cup-winner Robin Uthappa announced his retirement from all forms of Indian cricket on Wednesday.

Uthappa is fondly remembered for his exploits in India's title-winning run at the 2007 World T20. The batter scored a 39-ball 50 against Pakistan in a tied group-stage match. Uthappa – not a regular bowler – was famously called to action in the 'Bowl Out', where he was on target.

Uthappa, 36, earned 46 ODI and 13 T20I caps. A flamboyant stroke-maker, Uthappa last played for India in the 2015 tour of Zimbabwe. "It's been 20 years since I started playing professional cricket, and it has been the greatest honour to represent my country and my State Karnataka – a wonderful journey full of ups and downs; one that has been fulfilling, rewarding, enjoyable and has allowed me to grow as a human being. However, all good things must come to an end, and with a grateful heart I have decided to retire from all forms of Indian cricket," tweeted Uthappa.

He was highly valued in the IPL. Uthappa featured in all 15 seasons, scoring 4952 runs in 205 appearances, at an average and strike-rate of 27.51 and 130.35 respectively.

Uthappa won the IPL twice – in 2014 (with Kolkata Knight Riders) and 2021 (with Chennai Super Kings). In 2014, Uthappa became only the second Indian to win the Orange Cap for the highest run-scorer, after Sachin Tendulkar (2010).

Uthappa's journey

	M	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg.	100s/50s
ODIs	46	42	**934**	86	25.94	0/6
T20Is	13	12	**249**	50	24.90	0/1
First Class	142	238	**9446**	162	40.71	22/52
List A	203	197	**6534**	169	35.31	16/33
T20s	291	282	**7272**	92	28.18	0/42
IPL	205	197	**4952**	88	27.51	0/27

Uthappa made his First Class debut for Karnataka as a teenager in the 2002-03 season. In 2006, Uthappa made his India debut in an ODI against England at Indore. Uthappa, who opened the batting in this match with then India captain and Karnataka teammate Rahul Dravid, was on course to recording a century before a run out ended his stay on 86.

In domestic cricket, Uthappa was a key part of a Karnataka team which won the Ranji Trophy, Irani Cup and Vijay Hazare Trophy in the 2013-14 season. He was also instrumental in Karnataka's second successive treble-winning season in 2014-15. Later in his career, he represented Saurashtra and Kerala.

Fly, Robin Fly! Uthappa swung quite a few games for India, his IPL franchises and Karnataka. • FILE PHOTO

India-New Zealand final 'Test' begins today

ASHWIN ACHAL
BENGALURU

After spending considerable time in the dugout at Hubballi, India-A and New Zealand-A will hope to immerse in uninterrupted action in the third and final 'Test' which commences at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Thursday.

Rain played spoilsport in the second outing, leaving only 78.5 overs of play in the drawn match. The first unofficial Test, which was held at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, also ended in a stalemate.

In the limited field time at Hubballi, captain Priyank Panchal and K.S. Bharat got among the runs. Fast bowler Shardul Thakur made a handy 26 and picked up one wicket in his 6.5 overs. The trio will look to build on their performances here.

The first encounter was a fruitful one for Abhimanyu Easwaran, Rajat Patidar and Tilak Varma. Opener Easwaran made 132, while No. 6 Tilak recorded his maiden First Class century. Patidar was the most impressive in his 256-ball 176. All the three players, however, failed to deliver at Hubballi.

Fast bowler Mukesh Kumar will look to add to his wickets tally, having picked up a five-for at Bengaluru. Umran Malik was picked for the second game, but only got to bowl three overs.

Spinners Rahul Chahar and Saurabh Kumar had it worse, as they were not called into action with the ball. Malik, Chahar and Saurabh can expect to get another go here.

Calm Bouchard downs Karman

The Indian squanders chances aplenty in the second set

CHENNAI OPEN

N. SUDARSHAN
CHENNAI

Eugenie Bouchard was calm, and organised when it mattered, as she beat home favourite Karman Thandi 6-2, 7-6(2) to enter the quarterfinals of the WTA Chennai Open at the SDAT Tennis Stadium here on Wednesday.

Bouchard played a solid first set, wobbled for much of the second even as Karman lifted her game, before readjusting her technique while visibly tiring and "sweating out of her shoes," to get past the finish line.

The Canadian's start was smart and clean, with the right amount of weight, depth and power on her shots. Karman didn't hold the cards close to her chest, trying to run around backhands and revealing which her favoured wing was.

Bouchard was on to it in a flash, pounding the Indian's backhand to go 4-0 up. With too much pressure on the forehand, Karman went for the outrageous often. The percentages caught up and errors flew from the forehand side as well.

Karman's height advantage meant that she could land a few big serves. But whenever she did, Bouchard was up to the task, returning everything in sight. The Canadian served out the set 6-2, with the last point a vicious kick-served ace.

Karman took a break, refreshed and emerged with new clothing. Bouchard shadow-practised on court, perhaps to avoid a disruption to her rhythm. But a certain shakiness did creep in, as she fell behind in each of her first three service games, before being broken off the last when she botched two forehands.

The full range: Bouchard was solid in the first set, wobbled for much of the second before closing it. • R. RAVINDRAN

The Indian's serve was equally erratic but she did admirably well to drag herself out of tricky positions by uncorking her fierce forehand. The hold to 5-2 was, however, clean, finished off by two exquisite one-two punches.

With the crowd firmly in her corner – though it was also guilty, at times, of forgetting tennis etiquette by screaming in the middle of rallies – Karman was in prime position at 5-3 to level the match. But she fluffed two set points and was broken.

The net-cord put paid to her hopes on one of those, taking the ball out off a perfectly executed inside-out forehand. Bouchard nonchalantly raised her level and held to 5-5 before bringing up two break points. But Karman hung on, saving both. The contest inevitably slipped into a tie-break, but once there, Karman didn't land a single first-serve and Bouchard wasn't one to miss out.

Other results (round-of-16): Singles: Rebecca Marino (Can) bt Katarzyna Kawa (Pol) 7-5, 6-3; Linda Fruhvirtova (Cze) bt Rebecca Peterson (Swe) 6-4, 6-2; Nao Hibino (Jpn) bt Qiang Wang (Chn) 6-2, 6-3.

Thursday's order of play

- Centre Court
- Magda Linette vs. Oksana Selekhmeteva
- Nadia Podoroska vs. Tatjana Maria
- Carol Zhao vs. Varvara Gracheva

Naresh Kumar, tennis doyen, passes away

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

Naresh Kumar, who strode the Indian tennis scene like a colossus, passed away here following a brief illness owing to age-related complications. The former India Davis Cup captain was 93 and is survived by wife Sunita, a son and two daughters.

Born on December 22, 1928 in Lahore, Naresh Kumar went on to become a big name in Indian tennis after Independence.

He made news by reaching the final of the Northern Championships (later known as Manchester Open) in England in 1949.

Naresh Kumar, who made it to the Davis Cup team in 1952, represented the country for eight straight years and later went on to become the captain.

Naresh Kumar made it to the singles main draw at the Wimbledon for nine consecutive years with his best coming in 1955 when he reached the pre-quarterfinals. He also reached the third round of the French Open in 1958. A good doubles player, he made the Wimbledon quarterfinals in 1953, 1955 and 1958.

Prior to his Slam appearances, Naresh Kumar won Irish Championship titles in 1952 and 1953. He also claimed a singles crown in the Welsh Championship and won five career titles.

He was a wonderful commentator and a writer on the game with listeners and viewers following his reports from Wimbledon for many years.

Versatile: Naresh Kumar was a consummate player in both singles and doubles. • THE HINDU ARCHIVES

'He ushered in a golden era'

Krishnan and others recall their time with Naresh

Former players paid glowing tributes to Naresh Kumar, who passed away in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Ramanathan Krishnan: He was connected with tennis as an active participant in Davis Cup and Grand Slam tournaments for several years. Our friendship goes back to 1950. We travelled and played during the early part of my career, playing several memorable matches as partners. I will miss him dearly as a friend, compatriot, partner and buddy. Naresh's second innings as coach and captain of the Indian Davis Cup team ushered in a golden era for Indian sports.

He encouraged and guided several youngsters aspiring to enter the higher echelons of the game. A shrewd player and coach, and a fine human being, I spent several delightful moments with him. We happily aged together while staying in close touch all along.

Jaidip Mukerjea: We grew up idolising Naresh Kumar. He had a great influence on Premjit Lall, Dilip Bose and me as we were starting our tennis lessons as teenagers in the South Club in Kolkata.

He used to help us a lot and would often join us in playing doubles matches to show the finer aspects of the game. He was a perfect gentleman who always worked for the development of tennis in the country.

I still remember my Davis Cup debut in 1960 against Thailand. I got a place alongside my captain Naresh in the two-member team after Ramanathan Krishnan contracted chicken pox.

I won the debut singles match in five sets as an 18-year-old. Despite being my captain, Naresh was always attending to me, massaging my legs and motivating me. He had a big influence on the tennis career of Leander Paes, too.

Fab Four: Naresh Kumar, second from right, with Premjit Lall, Jaidip Mukerjea and Ramanathan Krishnan. • THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Vijay Amritraj: My earliest and best memories of Naresh was before my 14th birthday. I was selected for the junior coaching camp at Guwahati, my first time outside the State [Tamil Nadu]. We had to go through Kolkata. As children we were invited to Naresh's house. Naresh and his wife Sunita were the perfect host. He saw me win the Nationals in Kolkata, beating Ramesh Krishnan in the final. Every time I went to Kolkata, we would have dinner at his house every single day.

Every time he came to London, we were together throughout my playing days at Wimbledon.

In 1979, Naresh wrote one of the finest stories about the 1979 Wimbledon, calling my match with Bjorn Bjorg [Vijay lost the match], the best of the fortnight.

Ramesh Krishnan: When I was part of the Davis Cup team from 1991-93, Naresh was our captain. At the time, he was instrumental in getting the team together. Those three years stand out because I was in my 30s, Leander was a teenager and Naresh was in his 60s. He ensured we jelled as a team. He was great fun and a good host. Any trip to Kolkata was not complete without a visit to Naresh's house.

Ashis Ray (BBC commentator): His heavy top spin forehand and sometimes a fashionable light blue pullover as attire are vivid in memory. His partnership with Ramanathan Krishnan was formidable. Despite ultimately losing the tie against Australa 1-4 in the Challenge round in 1966, Naresh warmed Indian hearts with his thrilling description of the match.

Thereafter for many years, Naresh would annually broadcast on the Wimbledon Championships. In 1982, when I was invited back to India to anchor Doordarshan's live coverage of the Delhi Asian Games, Naresh was one of my co-anchors.

(With inputs from K. Keerthivasan, Amitabha Das Sharma and N. Sudarshan).

South vs North promises a fascinating duel

The semifinal beginning today will be an addition to a great legacy of the tournament

DULEEP TROPHY

S. DINAKAR
SALEM

The contrasting styles in play and cricketing cultures have made the South-North Duleep Trophy duels fascinating over the years.

The touch artists from the South, spearheaded by Gundappa Viswanath, the power-hitters from the North.

The magical spinners from the South, men of pace from the North led by Kapil Dev complementing the mesmerising spin of Bishan Bedi and Rajinder Goel.

The courteous cricketers from the South versus more aggressive and in-your-face men from the North.

Fiercely fought matches, tight finishes, great memories. Thursday's Duleep Trophy semifinal here between the two teams will be an addition to the great South-North legacy.

Hanuma Vihari and his team will be up against an in-form North Zone side.

Mentally tough

The organised and mentally tough Vihari and his resilient deputy Mayank Agarwal lend weight to batting.

The pitch for the match has some patches near the good length area that have, for now, been covered with cut-grass.

Once the cut-grass is cleaned up by constant cricket, the patches could come into play.

The lanky R. Sai Kishore can hurt North with his left-arm spin of bounce, turn and control. Off-spinner K. Gowtham is a capable bowler with variations.

Although North has useful spinners in Nishant Sindhu and Pulkit Narang, the team's strength is pace. The speedy Navdeep Saini & Co. will be seeking to exploit any reverse swing on offer.

Fulcrum: Padikkal, Mayank and skipper Vihari will be keen to parade South Zone's batting might. • R. RAGU

South has strength and depth in batting with Manish Pandey, Devdutt Padikkal and Baba Indrajith, all prolific in the domestic circuit, in its ranks. And Kerala's Rohan Kunnummal has made a spectacular start to his First Class career.

North, which has capable batters such as Dhruv Shorey, Mandeep Singh and H. Rana, bats deep.

Focus on Dhull

Once again much focus will be on talented opener Yash Dhull. Basil Thampi versus Dhull could be a shootout worth watching.

The teams (from):

South Zone: Hanuma Vihari (Capt.), Mayank Agarwal, Devdutt Padikkal, Ricky Bhui, Manish Pandey, B. Indrajith, Rohan Kunnummal, K. Gowtham, R. Sai Kishore, Ravi Teja, Basil Thampi, C. Stephen, Tanay Thyagarajan, Eknath Kerkar and Lakshay Garg.

North Zone: Mandeep Singh (Capt.), Manan Vohra, Yash Dhull, Dhruv Shorey, Himanshu Rana, Anmol Malhorta, Nishant Sindhu, Jagjit Singh, Siddharth Kaul, Pulkit Narang, Navdeep Saini, Akash Vashisht, Vikas Mishra, Mayank Dagar and Qamar Iqbal.

Vinesh bags a bronze

WRESTLING WORLDS

SPORTS BUREAU

Vinesh Phogat (53kg) beat Sweden's Jonna Malmgren 8-0 to claim a bronze at the World championships in Belgrade on Wednesday and become the first Indian woman wrestler to secure two medals in the Worlds.

World under-23 bronze medallist Nisha Dahiya (68kg) beat Lithuania's Danute Domikaityte 11-0, Czech Republic's Adela Hanzlickova 13-8 and Bulgaria's Sofia Georgieva 11-0 before losing to Ami Ishii of Japan 5-4 in the semifinals.

Mansi Ahlawat (59kg) defeated Ukrainian Solomiia Vynnyk 8-5 but lost to European silver medallist Jowita Wrzesien of Poland 5-3.

Worlds bronze medallist Sarita Mor (57kg) beat Canadian Hannah Taylor 4-2 before being pinned by Polish Anhelina Lysak.

Reetika (72kg) lost to Frenchwoman Kendra Dacher 6-2.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Nancy hits six goals

Nancy slammed six goals in Maatru Pratishtana FC's big win over Rebels FC in the KSFA women's super division football league.

The results: KSFA women's super division: Kickstart FC 10 (Sonia Marak 20, 51, 66, Kaviya Pakkirisamy 38, 80, 89, Sushmita Lepcha 47, Sonia Rana 45, Tania Kanti 71, 73) bt Pink Panthers FC 0; Maatru Pratishtana FC 11 (Nancy 1, 16, 20, 50, 54, 87, Kavita 3, V.G. Lekhasri 21, 31, Seema 48, Keerthana 79) bt Rebels FC 3 (Kajal 6, 47, Poorjitha 90).

BDFA men's super division: Bangalore Independents FC 2 (U.K. Surya 83, V. Ajzal 86) bt BUFC 0.

West will look to sustain the momentum

Central will have its task cut out against Rahane's star-studded side

S. DIPAK RAGAV
COIMBATORE

Ajinkya Rahane, after being sidelined for four months owing to injury, returned with a bang, slamming an unbeaten double hundred for West against North East Zone in the Duleep Trophy quarterfinals in Chennai recently.

The 34-year-old will look to build on that momentum in the semifinal against Central which begins at the SNR College ground on Thursday.

"It was a great game for the team and me.

" Personally, I was happy with the way I batted and the time spent in the middle," said Rahane ahead of the Central clash.

"For me it was important is to stay in the middle as long as possible even during fielding. I wanted to see how my body reacted after the injury," said Rahane, crediting the rehabilitation work at the NCA that has helped him hit the ground running.

Battle-ready: Shubham and Dubey will be eager to chip in for Central. • M. PERIASAMY

Central, led by Uttar Pradesh's Karan Sharma, will have its task cut out as it does not have the star power of West and has had only two sessions together as a group.

A lot will depend on players like vice-captain Shubham Sharma and Yash Dubey, both of whom accumulated more than 600 runs in the Ranji Trophy last year as they guided Madhya Pradesh to the title.

Madhya Pradesh's left-arm spinner Kumar Kartikeya will hold the key for Central with the ball.

Pacers Gaurav Yadav, Aniket Choudhary and Ankit Rajpoot will look to make their presence felt.

The teams (from):

West Zone: Ajinkya Rahane (Capt.), Prithvi Shaw, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rahul Tripathi, Chirag Jani, Het Patel, Hardik Tamore, Shams Mulani, Tanish Kotian, Atit Seth, Chintan Gaja, Chetan Sakariya, Jaydev Unadkat and Satyajeet Bachhav.

Central Zone: Karan Sharma (Capt.), Shubham Sharma (Vice-capt.), Himanshu Mantri, Yash Dubey, Priyam Garg, Rinku Singh, Ashok Maneria, Akshay Wadkar, Gaurav Yadav, Venkatesh Iyer, Deepak Dhapola, Aniket Chaudhary, Kumar Kartikey, Aditya Sarvate and Ankit Rajpoot.

New roles for Jayawardene, Zaheer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Mahela Jayawardene and Zaheer Khan, key members of Mumbai Indians' support staff, have been elevated into global roles with the Reliance group acquiring T20 franchises in South Africa and UAE.

Akash Ambani, chairman of Reliance Infocomm, announced on Wednesday that Jayawardene will be the Global Head of Performance, MI while Zaheer will be the Global Head of Cricket Development, MI. "I am confident that they would be able to ensure the same flows through all our teams globally and make a difference in the cricketing ecosystems across the globe," Ambani stated.

Forever Together for Stewards Trophy

MYSURU: Forever Together, who has been well prepared is expected to score in the Stewards Trophy (1,400m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Thursday (Sept. 15). False rails (width about 4.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 S. HAJEE MEMORIAL PLATE (DIV. II), (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 2.00 p.m.: 1. Born King (1) M. Naveen 60, 2. Antinori (4) H. Rahul 59, 3. Knott So Knotty (6) Ayaz Khan 59, 4. Fun And Laughter (5) R. Shiva K 58, 5. War Song (3) Kiran Rai 57, 6. Conspiracy (7) Hasib A 56, 7. Hoofed Wonder (8) R. Manjunath 56 and 8. The Intruder (2) R. Pradeep 55.5.

1. BORN KING, 2. ANTINORI, 3. CONSPIRACY

1 INDRADHANUSH PLATE (1,100m), rated 00 to 25, 2-30: 1. Country's Chief (3) J. Paswan 62, 2. Gold Charm (9) S. Saqlain 62, 3. Vijaya Miracle (5) Kiran Rai 61.5, 4. Shivalik Attitude (2) Santosh K 61, 5. Armament (11) Gautam RAJ 60.5, 6. Country's Talent (10) Saddam H 60.5, 7. Lucky Sun (8) Sai Kiran 59.5, 8. Ironic Humour (4) Sarvan K 59, 9. Jet Speed (6) Nazerul 56, 10. Raptor (1) Hasib A 55.5 and 11. Engelberg (7) Antony 52.5.

1. VIJAY MIRACLE, 2. ENGELBERG, 3. LUCKY SUN

2 M.B. APPAYA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 3-00: 1. Biometric (4) Imran Ashraf 62, 2. Blue Blossom (5) Ayaz Khan 59.5, 3. Aurelia (15) Nazerul 57, 4. Mark One (13) S. Saqlain 57, 5. Guiding Force (6) Afsar Khan 56.5, 6. Alberetta (14) Antony 55, 7. Magic Circle (9) Akshay K 55, 8. Perfect Perfecto (1) Dhanu S 55, 9. Smart Cadillac (10) Sai Kiran 54.5, 10. Perfect Rendition (12) Hasib A 54, 11. Wind Whistler (8) Kiran Rai 53.5, 12. Circus Queen (7) H. Rahul 53, 13. Ochre (2) Salman K 53, 14. Maybury (11) S. Shareef 52.5 and 15. D Roman Reigns (3) Mukesh K 51.5.

1. MAGIC CIRCLE, 2. MARK ONE, 3. ALBERETTA

3 B.A. NANAIAH MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 3-30: 1. Aquila D'oro (4) Santosh K 60, 2. Crimson Fire (5) Hasib A 60, 3. Lord Commander (7) Nazerul 58.5, 4. Rhythmic (2) J.H. Arul 58, 5. D Fire (8) H. Rahul 54.5, 6. Deimus (3) R. Shiva K 54.5, 7. Amazonia (1) C. Umesh 51.5 and 8. Country's Flash (6) Sai Kiran 51.5.

1. RHYTHMIC, 2. AMAZONIA, 3. CRIMSON FIRE

4 STEWARDS TROPHY (1,400m), rated 60 to 85, 4-y-o & over, 4-00: 1. Aberlour (2) Santosh K 62.5, 2. Forever Together (9) S. Saqlain 59.5, 3. Tremendous (4) J.H. Arul 57.5, 4. Rising Sun (3) Sai Kiran 55.5, 5. Sadeek (8) Hasib A 54.5, 6. Sound Of Canon's (7) C. Umesh 53.5, 7. Cletus (6) Gautam Raj 53, 8. Drusilla (5) Ayaz Khan 52 and 9. Capable (1) Hindu S 50.

1. FOREVER TOGETHER, 2. SADEEK, 3. CAPABLE

5 S. HAJEE MEMORIAL PLATE (Div. I), (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 4-30: 1. Star Domination (2) Saddam H 60.5, 2. King Pompous (–) (–) 55, 3. Mystic Mountain (1) S. Saqlain 55, 4. O Kanhaiya (3) C. Umesh 55, 5. Southern Warrior (7) Nazerul 55, 6. Trevalius (4) Sandesh 55, 7. Twilight Tornado (6) J.H. Arul 55 and 8. White Lies (5) Sai Kiran 55.

1. TREVALIUS, 2. O KANHAIYA

6 HAVERI PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. Southern Power (1) Antony 62.5, 2. Johnny Bravo (3) S. Saqlain 61.5, 3. See My Heels (7) Rayan 61.5, 4. Dr Logan (4) B.L. Paswan 60, 5. Perfectimagination (8) Dhanu S 58, 6. Rauch (6) J.H. Arul 57.5, 7. Benghazi (5) Kiran Rai 56.5 and 8. Bramastram (2) Nazerul 53.5.

1. JOHNNY BRAVO, 2. RAUCH, 3. BRAMASTRAM

Day's best: **JOHNNY BRAVO**

Double: **FOREVER TOGETHER – TREVALIUS**

Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

Bipin puts Mumbai City in final

The winger's last-gasp strike scuttles Sporting's chances

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

Bipin Singh scored in the final minute of the regulation time to help debutant Mumbai City FC beat local favourite Mohammedan Sporting SC by a solitary goal in the first semifinal of the 131st Durand Cup, at the Salt Lake Stadium on Wednesday.

Mumbai will take on either ISL champion Hyderabad FC or Bengaluru FC in the title clash on Sunday.

Bipin, one of the finest wingers in the business, found the net after an excellent combination between Scottish forward Greg Stewart and Lallianzuala Chhangte provided him with the opportunity.

Sporting started on a breezy note and dominated the action in the first quarter. Though Mumbai found its way back in the second, it could not create the chance to find the lead.

Clinching it! Bipin, left, fires in Mumbai's winner. • DEBASISH BHADURI

The change of ends saw the teams showing more purpose but a goal remained elusive as the teams struggled to finish the few openings happening in the boxes.

Mumbai had one good chance in the 60th but the Sporting goalkeeper Zothanmawia came up with a spectacular save as Stewart tried to curl the ball past him.

Marcus Joseph had a fine chance in the 65th minute to put Sporting in the lead and it was the Mumbai custodian Phurba Lachenpa's turn to send the ball out of harm's way.

Just when the match appeared to be headed for extra time, Bipin converted to decide the match in the Islanders' favour.

The result: Mohammedan Sporting SC 0 lost to Mumbai City FC 1 (Bipin Singh 90).

It is a pretty even match, feels captain Rajpal

Norwegian skipper says Ruud is set to play three Davis Cup matches

SPORTS BUREAU

Captain Rohit Rajpal admired the indoor arena and scenic beauty, even as he hoped that it would inspire the Indian team to play at its best against Norway in the Davis Cup World Group tie in Lillehammer on September 16 and 17.

In the pre-draw press conference on Wednesday, World No. 2 Casper Ruud was also present, with captain Anders Haseth assuring that Ruud would play two singles and the doubles to boost the host's chances.

"Ruud will play all three matches," said Haseth.

The Norwegian captain had a lot of respect for the Indian team, the rich experience of the players and their ability to come to the net and play good serve and volley game.

Holding court: Prajnesh, Rajpal and Saketh address the pre-draw press conference. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Rajpal said having six players was good enough for the away tie and that the team would plan its strategy while finalising the team before the draw ceremony on Thursday.

"It is a pretty even match", said Rajpal, as he took into account that Norway was virtually a one-man army.

"We believe in our chances. We hope the tie goes our way," said Prajnesh Gunneswaran.

Saketh Myneni said that the focus of the team was to work hard and prepare well.

The opening day will have two singles, and the second day, doubles followed by two singles. Matches will be best of three sets.

Prajnesh felt the court was not very fast but said that all the players were quite used to the pace of the surface and the Indian team did not require very fast courts these days to compete hard.

Rajpal said that it was disappointing to miss the services of Rohan Bopanna.

"I am grateful to Saketh for making himself available. Yuki Bhambri and Saketh have won a series of Challengers in recent weeks and am confident that they would do the job for us", said Rajpal.

It will be interesting to see who plays on the first day for India, from among Ramkumar Ramanathan, Prajnesh, Sumit Nagal and Sasikumar Mukund.

Barca flatters to deceive, loses to Bayern

Liverpool gets its campaign up and running; Sporting stuns Tottenham

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Bayern Munich got the better of Barcelona as Robert Lewandowski returned to face his former club on Tuesday, while a late Joel Matip goal allowed Liverpool to beat Ajax and get its Champions League campaign up and running.

There was also a surprise defeat for Tottenham Hotspur at Sporting Lisbon, and Atletico Madrid was beaten on its trip to play Bayer Leverkusen.

Both Spanish visitors to Germany came away on the losing side, with Barcelona going down 0-2 at the Allianz Arena in Group C as Lewandowski came back to the club he left in the summer after eight prolific seasons in Bavaria.

Breaking through: Bayern scored the opener five minutes into the second half when Hernandez headed home. • AP

He was desperately close to opening the scoring in the first half in Munich, but it was Bayern who went in front five minutes into the second half when Lucas Hernandez headed in from a corner.

Leroy Sane burst through four minutes later to make it 2-0 as Julian Nagelsmann's Bayern made it two wins out of two in the group.

Barcelona next faces Inter Milan, which got its first points with a 2-0 win away to Plzen in the Czech Republic.

Liverpool beat Ajax 2-1 at Anfield. Mohamed Salah put Jurgen Klopp's side ahead in the 17th minute, only for the Dutch champion to equalise before the half-hour, courtesy of an emphatic finish from their thrilling Ghanaian talent Mohammed Kudus.

Liverpool's Matip headed in from a corner in the 89th minute, the ball crossing the line before it could be cleared out.

The other game in Group A, between Rangers and Napoli, was postponed until Wednesday.

Antonio Conte's Spurs slumped to a 2-0 defeat against Sporting in Portugal in Group D, with the home side scoring both goals late on.

The results: Group A: Liverpool 2 (Salah 17, Matip 89) bt Ajax 1 (Kudus 27).

Group B: Bayer Leverkusen 2 (Andrich 86, Diaby 87) bt Atletico Madrid 0; Porto 0 lost to Club Brugge 4 (Jutgla 15-pen, Sowah 47, Skov Olsen 52, Nusa 89).

Group C: Bayern Munich 2 (Hernandez 50, Sane 54) bt Barcelona 0; Viktoria Plzen 0 lost to Inter Milan 2 (Dzeko 20, Dumfries 70).

Group D: Marseille 0 lost Eintracht Frankfurt 1 (Lindstrom 43); Sporting 2 (Paulinho 90, Arthur Gomes 90+3) bt Tottenham 0.

Sportstar's North Sports Conclave to be held today

SPORTS BUREAU

The Uttar Pradesh Primary education minister Sandeep Singh will lead a panel discussion on making sports part of the school curriculum at *Sportstar*'s first-ever North Sports Conclave on Thursday in Lucknow, where a host of speakers will discuss key issues pertaining to the sports ecosystem in the region.

Sports Minister Girish Chandra Yadav will deliver a special address at the full-day conclave, which will have different segments, including a conversation on how sport helps boost development and provide employment.

Former India and Chennai Super Kings batter Suresh Raina will be joined by Olympic bronze medallist Lalit Upadhyay of the Indian men's hockey team and Commonwealth Games bronze medal winner Vijay Yadav in a conversation aimed at finding out what athletes need to find success.

Safety in women's sports

CWG 2022 medallists Vandana Katariya (hockey) and Priyanka Goswami (athletics) and Asian Para Games gold medallist Ekta Bhyan (athletics) will headline a panel to discuss safety in women's sports.

There will also be a panel featuring Asian Games Esports medallist Tirth Mehta and Esports Federation of India director Lokesh Suji.

Navneet Sehgal, Uttar Pradesh's additional chief secretary-Sports, will explain what role the sports industry can play in the country's run to become a trillion-dollar economy. He will also be leading a session on U.P. government's scheme 'One District, One Product'.

The conclave will be held in association with Hero We Care, a Hero Motocorp CSR Initiative, K.J. Somaiya Institute of Management, Indian Oil, Shiv Naresh, Life Insurance Corporation of India and KSG. Readers can follow the event live on the *sportstar.thehindu.com*

LIVE TELECAST

WTA Chennai Open: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 5 p.m. onwards

Durand Cup: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 6 p.m.

RSWS 2022: Colors Cineplex, Colors Cineplex Superhits, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 7.30 p.m.

England Women vs India Women: 3rd T20I, Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 11 p.m.

Digvijay enters quarterfinals

SPORTS BUREAU

Digvijay Pratap Singh defeated Pablo Carretero of Spain 6-1, 7-5 to reach the quarterfinals of the $25,000 ITF men's tennis tournament in Madrid on Wednesday.

Other results: $53,120 Challenger, Istanbul: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Anirudh Chandrasekar & Vijay Sundar Prashanth bt Adrian Oetzbach (Ger) & Rishab Agarwal 2-6, 6-2, [10-3]; Purav Raja & Divij Sharan bt Berk Ilkel & S. Mert Ozdemir (Tur) 6-4, 6-4.